

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 1028

FISCAL
NOTE

By Senator Rucker

[Introduced February 20, 2026; referred
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources;
and then to the Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §33-15-4t, §33-16-3ee, §33-24-7t, §33-25-8q, and §33-25A-8t of
 2 the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to cost-sharing under health plans;
 3 requiring pharmacy benefits managers to include any cost sharing amounts paid by
 4 insured or by another person when calculating insured's contribution to any applicable
 5 cost-sharing requirement; applying certain annual limitation on cost sharing to all health
 6 plans issued in this state; preventing insurers, pharmacy benefits managers, and third-
 7 party administrators from changing the terms of health plan coverage based on the
 8 availability or amount of financial assistance available for a prescription drug; defining
 9 terms; providing civil penalties and authorizing restitution; and providing effective date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 15. ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE.

§33-15-4t. Fairness in Cost-Sharing Calculation.

1 (a) As used in this section:

2 "Cost sharing" means any copayment, coinsurance, or deductible required by or on behalf
 3 of an insured in order to receive a specific health care item or service covered by a health plan.

4 "Drug" means the same as the term is defined in §30-5-4 of this code.

5 "Health care service" means an item or service furnished to any individual for the purpose
 6 of preventing, alleviating, curing, or healing human illness, injury, or physical disability.

7 "Health plan" means a policy, contract, certification, or agreement offered or issued by an
 8 insurer to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of health care
 9 services.

10 "Person" means a natural person, corporation, mutual company, unincorporated
 11 association, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust, estate, foundation, nonprofit
 12 corporation, unincorporated organization, or government or governmental subdivision or agency.

13 "Pharmacy benefits manager" means the same as that term is defined in §33-51-3 of this
 14 code.

15 "Third-party administrator" means the same as that term is defined in § 33-46-2 of this
16 code.

17 (b) When calculating an insured's contribution to any applicable cost sharing requirement,
18 including, but not limited to, the annual limitation on cost sharing subject to 42 U.S.C. § 18022(e)
19 and 42 U.S.C. § 300gg-6(b):

20 (1) An an insurer or pharmacy benefits manager shall include any cost sharing amounts
21 paid by the insured or on behalf of the insured by another person. ~~and~~

22 (2) ~~A pharmacy benefits manger shall include any cost sharing amounts paid by the~~
23 ~~insured or on behalf of the insured by another person.~~

24 (c) The annual limitation on cost sharing provided for under 42 U.S.C. § 18022(c)(1) shall
25 apply to all health care services covered under any health plan offered or issued by an insurer in
26 this state.

27 (d) An insurer, pharmacy benefits manager, or third-party administrator may not directly or
28 indirectly set, alter, implement, or condition the terms of health plan coverage, including the benefit
29 design, based in part or entirely on information about the availability or amount of financial or
30 product assistance available for a prescription drug.

31 (e)(e) The commissioner is authorized to propose rules for legislative approval in
32 accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code to implement the provisions of this section.

33 (d)(f) This section is effective for policy, contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or
34 after January 1, 2020. The amendments made to this section in 2026 are effective for policy,
35 contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or after January 1, 2027. This section applies to all
36 policies, contracts, plans, or agreements, subject to this article that are delivered, executed,
37 issued, amended, adjusted, or renewed in this state on or after the effective date of this section.

38 (e)(g) If under federal law application of subsection (b) of this section would result in Health
39 Savings Account ineligibility under Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code, this requirement
40 shall apply only for Health Savings Account-qualified High Deductible Health Plans with respect to

41 the deductible of such a plan after the enrollee has satisfied the minimum deductible under Section
 42 223 of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That with respect to items or services that are
 43 preventive care pursuant to Section 223(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code, the requirements
 44 of subsection (b) of this section shall apply regardless of whether the minimum deductible under
 45 Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code has been satisfied.

46 (h) In addition to the penalties and other enforcement provisions of this chapter, any person
 47 who violates this section is subject to civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation. Imposition of
 48 civil penalties shall be pursuant to an order of the commissioner issued after notice and hearing.
 49 The commissioner's order may require a person found to be in violation of this section to make
 50 restitution to persons aggrieved by violations of this section.

ARTICLE 16. GROUP ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE.

§33-16-3ee. Fairness in Cost-Sharing Calculation.

1 (a) As used in this section:

2 "Cost sharing" means any copayment, coinsurance, or deductible required by or on behalf
 3 of an insured in order to receive a specific health care item or service covered by a health plan.

4 "Drug" means the same as the term is defined in §30-5-4 of this code.

5 "Health care service" means an item or service furnished to any individual for the purpose
 6 of preventing, alleviating, curing, or healing human illness, injury, or physical disability.

7 "Health plan" means a policy, contract, certification, or agreement offered or issued by an
 8 insurer to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of health care
 9 services.

10 "Person" means a natural person, corporation, mutual company, unincorporated
 11 association, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust, estate, foundation, nonprofit
 12 corporation, unincorporated organization, or government or governmental subdivision or agency.

13 "Pharmacy benefits manager" means the same as that term is defined in §33-51-3 of this
 14 code.

15 "Third-party administrator" means the same as that term is defined in §33-46-2 of this
16 code.

17 (b) When calculating an insured's contribution to any applicable cost sharing requirement,
18 including, but not limited to, the annual limitation on cost sharing subject to 42 U.S.C. § 18022(e)
19 and 42 U.S.C. § 300gg-6(b):

20 (1) An an insurer or pharmacy benefits manager shall include any cost sharing amounts
21 paid by the insured or on behalf of the insured by another person, ~~and~~

22 (2) ~~A pharmacy benefits manger shall include any cost sharing amounts paid by the~~
23 ~~insured or on behalf of the insured by another person.~~

24 (c) The annual limitation on cost sharing provided for under 42 U.S.C. § 18022(c)(1) shall
25 apply to all health care services covered under any health plan offered or issued by an insurer in
26 this state.

27 (d) An insurer, pharmacy benefits manager, or third-party administrator may not directly or
28 indirectly set, alter, implement, or condition the terms of health plan coverage, including the benefit
29 design, based in part or entirely on information about the availability or amount of financial or
30 product assistance available for a prescription drug.

31 (e)(e) The commissioner is authorized to propose rules for legislative approval in
32 accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, to implement the provisions of this section.

33 (d)(f) This section is effective for policy, contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or
34 after January 1, 2020. The amendments made to this section in 2026 are effective for policy,
35 contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or after January 1, 2027. This section applies to all
36 policies, contracts, plans, or agreements, subject to this article that are delivered, executed,
37 issued, amended, adjusted, or renewed in this state on or after the effective date of this section.

38 (e)(g) If under federal law application of subsection (b) of this section would result in Health
39 Savings Account ineligibility under Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code, this requirement
40 shall apply only for Health Savings Account-qualified High Deductible Health Plans with respect to

41 the deductible of such a plan after the enrollee has satisfied the minimum deductible under Section
 42 223 of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That with respect to items or services that are
 43 preventive care pursuant to Section 223(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code, the requirements
 44 of subsection (b) of this section shall apply regardless of whether the minimum deductible under
 45 Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code has been satisfied.

46 (h) In addition to the penalties and other enforcement provisions of this chapter, any person
 47 who violates this section is subject to civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation. Imposition of
 48 civil penalties shall be pursuant to an order of the commissioner issued after notice and hearing.
 49 The commissioner's order may require a person found to be in violation of this section to make
 50 restitution to persons aggrieved by violations of this section.

ARTICLE 24. HOSPITAL SERVICE CORPORATIONS, MEDICAL SERVICE CORPORATIONS, DENTAL SERVICE CORPORATIONS AND HEALTH SERVICE CORPORATIONS.

§33-24-7t. Fairness in Cost-Sharing Calculation.

1 (a) As used in this section:

2 "Cost sharing" means any copayment, coinsurance, or deductible required by or on behalf
 3 of an insured in order to receive a specific health care item or service covered by a health plan.

4 "Drug" means the same as the term is defined in §30-5-4 of this code.

5 "Health care service" means an item or service furnished to any individual for the purpose
 6 of preventing, alleviating, curing, or healing human illness, injury, or physical disability.

7 "Health plan" means a policy, contract, certification, or agreement offered or issued by an
 8 insurer to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of health care
 9 services.

10 "Person" means a natural person, corporation, mutual company, unincorporated
11 association, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust, estate, foundation, nonprofit
12 corporation, unincorporated organization, or government or governmental subdivision or agency.

13 "Pharmacy benefits manager" means the same as that term is defined in §33-51-3 of this
14 code.

15 "Third-party administrator" means the same as that term is defined in §33-46-2 of this
16 code.

17 (b) When calculating an insured's contribution to any applicable cost sharing requirement,
18 including, but not limited to, the annual limitation on cost sharing subject to 42 U.S.C. § 18022(c)
19 and 42 U.S.C. § 300gg-6(b):

20 (1) ~~An an insurer or pharmacy benefits manager~~ shall include any cost sharing amounts
21 paid by the insured or on behalf of the insured by another person. ~~and~~

22 (2) ~~A pharmacy benefits manger shall include any cost sharing amounts paid by the~~
23 ~~insured or on behalf of the insured by another person.~~

24 (c) The annual limitation on cost sharing provided for under 42 U.S.C. § 18022(c)(1) shall
25 apply to all health care services covered under any health plan offered or issued by an insurer in
26 this state.

27 (d) An insurer, pharmacy benefits manager, or third-party administrator may not directly or
28 indirectly set, alter, implement, or condition the terms of health plan coverage, including the benefit
29 design, based in part or entirely on information about the availability or amount of financial or
30 product assistance available for a prescription drug.

31 ~~(e)~~(e) The commissioner is authorized to propose rules for legislative approval in
32 accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, to implement the provisions of this section.

33 ~~(d)~~(f) This section is effective for policy, contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or
34 after January 1, 2020. The amendments made to this section in 2026 are effective for policy,
35 contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or after January 1, 2027. This section applies to all

36 policies, contracts, plans, or agreements subject to this article that are delivered, executed,
37 issued, amended, adjusted, or renewed in this state on or after the effective date of this section.

38 ~~(e)~~(g) If under federal law application of subsection (b) of this section would result in Health
39 Savings Account ineligibility under Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code, this requirement
40 shall apply only for Health Savings Account-qualified High Deductible Health Plans with respect to
41 the deductible of such a plan after the enrollee has satisfied the minimum deductible under Section
42 223 of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That with respect to items or services that are
43 preventive care pursuant to Section 223(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code, the requirements
44 of subsection (b) of this section shall apply regardless of whether the minimum deductible under
45 Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code has been satisfied.

46 (h) In addition to the penalties and other enforcement provisions of this chapter, any person
47 who violates this section is subject to civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation. Imposition of
48 civil penalties shall be pursuant to an order of the commissioner issued after notice and hearing.
49 The commissioner's order may require a person found to be in violation of this section to make
50 restitution to persons aggrieved by violations of this section.

ARTICLE 25. HEALTH CARE CORPORATIONS.

§33-25-8q. Fairness in Cost-Sharing Calculation.

- 1 (a) As used in this section:
- 2 "Cost sharing" means any copayment, coinsurance, or deductible required by or on behalf
- 3 of an insured in order to receive a specific health care item or service covered by a health plan.
- 4 "Drug" means the same as the term is defined in §30-5-4 of this code.
- 5 "Health care service" means an item or service furnished to any individual for the purpose
- 6 of preventing, alleviating, curing, or healing human illness, injury, or physical disability.
- 7 "Health plan" means a policy, contract, certification, or agreement offered or issued by an
- 8 insurer to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of health care
- 9 services.

10 "Person" means a natural person, corporation, mutual company, unincorporated
11 association, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust, estate, foundation, nonprofit
12 corporation, unincorporated organization, or government or governmental subdivision or agency.

13 "Pharmacy benefits manager" means the same as that term is defined in §33-51-3 of this
14 code.

15 "Third-party administrator" means as that term is defined in §33-46-2 of this code.

16 (b) When calculating an insured's contribution to any applicable cost sharing requirement,
17 including, but not limited to, the annual limitation on cost sharing subject to 42 U.S.C. § 18022(e)
18 and 42 U.S.C. § 300gg-6(b):

19 ~~(1) An an insurer or pharmacy benefits manager shall include any cost sharing amounts~~
20 ~~paid by the insured or on behalf of the insured by another person. and~~

21 ~~(2) A pharmacy benefits manger shall include any cost sharing amounts paid by the~~
22 ~~insured or on behalf of the insured by another person.~~

23 (c) The annual limitation on cost sharing provided for under 42 U.S.C. § 18022(c)(1) shall
24 apply to all health care services covered under any health plan offered or issued by an insurer in
25 this state.

26 (d) An insurer, pharmacy benefits manager, or third-party administrator may not directly or
27 indirectly set, alter, implement, or condition the terms of health plan coverage, including the benefit
28 design, based in part or entirely on information about the availability or amount of financial or
29 product assistance available for a prescription drug.

30 ~~(e)~~(e) The commissioner is authorized to propose rules for legislative approval in
31 accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, to implement the provisions of this section.

32 (d) (f) This section is effective for policy, contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or
33 after January 1, 2020. The amendments made to this section in 2026 are effective for policy,
34 contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or after January 1, 2027. This section applies to all

35 policies, contracts, plans, or agreements, subject to this article that are delivered, executed,
36 issued, amended, adjusted, or renewed in this state on or after the effective date of this section.

37 ~~(e)~~(g) If under federal law application of subsection (b) of this section would result in Health
38 Savings Account ineligibility under Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code, this requirement
39 shall apply only for Health Savings Account-qualified High Deductible Health Plans with respect to
40 the deductible of such a plan after the enrollee has satisfied the minimum deductible under Section
41 223 of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That with respect to items or services that are
42 preventive care pursuant to Section 223(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code, the requirements
43 of subsection (b) of this section shall apply regardless of whether the minimum deductible under
44 Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code has been satisfied.

45 (h) In addition to the penalties and other enforcement provisions of this chapter, any person
46 who violates this section is subject to civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation. Imposition of
47 civil penalties shall be pursuant to an order of the commissioner issued after notice and hearing.
48 The commissioner's order may require a person found to be in violation of this section to make
49 restitution to persons aggrieved by violations of this section.

ARTICLE 25A. HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION ACT.

§33-25A-8t. Fairness in Cost-Sharing Calculation.

1 (a) As used in this section:
2 "Cost sharing" means any copayment, coinsurance, or deductible required by or on behalf
3 of an insured in order to receive a specific health care item or service covered by a health plan.
4 "Drug" means the same as the term is defined in §30-5-4 of this code.
5 "Health care service" means an item or service furnished to any individual for the purpose
6 of preventing, alleviating, curing, or healing human illness, injury, or physical disability.
7 "Health plan" means a policy, contract, certification, or agreement offered or issued by an
8 insurer to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of health care
9 services.

10 "Person" means a natural person, corporation, mutual company, unincorporated
11 association, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust, estate, foundation, nonprofit
12 corporation, unincorporated organization, or government or governmental subdivision or agency.

13 "Pharmacy benefits manager" means the same as that term is defined in §33-51-3 of this
14 code.

15 "Third-party administrator" means as that term is defined in §33-46-2 of this code.

16 (b) When calculating an insured's contribution to any applicable cost sharing requirement,
17 including, but not limited to, the annual limitation on cost sharing subject to 42 U.S.C. § 18022(e)
18 and 42 U.S.C. § 300gg-6(b):

19 ~~(1) An an insurer or pharmacy benefits manager shall include any cost sharing amounts~~
20 ~~paid by the insured or on behalf of the insured by another person; and~~

21 ~~(2) A pharmacy benefits manger shall include any cost sharing amounts paid by the~~
22 ~~insured or on behalf of the insured by another person.~~

23 (c) The annual limitation on cost sharing provided for under 42 U.S.C. § 18022(c)(1) shall
24 apply to all health care services covered under any health plan offered or issued by an insurer in
25 this state.

26 (d) An insurer, pharmacy benefits manager, or third-party administrator may not directly or
27 indirectly set, alter, implement, or condition the terms of health plan coverage, including the benefit
28 design, based in part or entirely on information about the availability or amount of financial or
29 product assistance available for a prescription drug.

30 ~~(e)(e)~~ The commissioner is authorized to propose rules for legislative approval in
31 accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, to implement the provisions of this section.

32 ~~(d)(f)~~ This section is effective for policy, contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or
33 after January 1, 2020. The amendments made to this section in 2026 are effective for policy,
34 contract, plans, or agreements beginning on or after January 1, 2027. This section applies to all

35 policies, contracts, plans, or agreements, subject to this article that are delivered, executed,
36 issued, amended, adjusted, or renewed in this state on or after the effective date of this section.

37 ~~(e)~~(g) If under federal law application of subsection (b) of this section would result in Health
38 Savings Account ineligibility under Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code, this requirement
39 shall apply only for Health Savings Account-qualified High Deductible Health Plans with respect to
40 the deductible of such a plan after the enrollee has satisfied the minimum deductible under Section
41 223 of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That with respect to items or services that are
42 preventive care pursuant to Section 223(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code, the requirements
43 of subsection (b) of this section shall apply regardless of whether the minimum deductible under
44 Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code has been satisfied.

45 (h) In addition to the penalties and other enforcement provisions of this chapter, any person
46 who violates this section is subject to civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation. Imposition of
47 civil penalties shall be pursuant to an order of the commissioner issued after notice and hearing.
48 The commissioner's order may require a person found to be in violation of this section to make
49 restitution to persons aggrieved by violations of this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to ensure financial or product assistance are available for a prescription drug.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.