

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB2638
Version:	Committee Substitute
Request Number:	
Author:	Munson, Echols, Bush, Fetgatter, Frix, Wallace, Kannady, Dunnington, Dollens, McEntire, Mize, Bennett, Caldwell
Date:	2/27/2019
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

HB2638, as committee substitute, relates to step therapy reform. The measure requires that health plans beginning in 2020 adopt guidelines governing step therapy. These guidelines will include criteria relating to the procedure determining medical necessity for step therap. The guidelines must be endorsed by a panel of unbiased experts (or peer-reviewed publications), research-based, and created through a transparent process. The measure further requires that for any prescription drug coverage restriction under a health plan, the insurer must provide an accessible process to request a step therapy exemption. Exemptions shall be granted in cases of:

- Required prescription likely to cause harm
- Required prescription likely to be ineffective
- Required prescription has already been tried by the patient and was discontinued
- Required prescription not in best interest of patient
- Patient is stable on other prescription drug

The measure requires that insurers respond to an exemption request (or appeal of rejected exemption request) within 72 hours, or within 24 hours for urgent cases. If an insurer does not respond within the timeframe, the request or appeal will be granted and coverage for the physician-prescribed drug will be provided. Finally, the measure directs the Insurance Department and the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to promulgate rules related to this act.

Prepared By: Anna Rouw

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

Other Considerations

None.

