SENATE BILL NO. 361–SENATORS CANNIZZARO, SCHEIBLE; CANCELA, DONDERO LOOP, D. HARRIS, RATTI AND WOODHOUSE

MARCH 19, 2019

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Provides for the prescribing, ordering and dispensing of contraceptive supplies by pharmacists. (BDR 54-921)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 13)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; authorizing a pharmacist to prescribe or order and dispense contraceptive supplies to a patient; requiring the State Plan for Medicaid and certain health insurance plans to provide certain benefits relating to contraceptive supplies; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires a pharmacist to dispense up to a 12-month supply or an amount equivalent to the balance of the plan year, whichever is less, of contraceptives or their therapeutic equivalent pursuant to a valid prescription or order if certain conditions are met. (NRS 639.28075) **Section 4** of this bill authorizes a pharmacist to prescribe or order and to dispense contraceptives or their therapeutic equivalent and certain contraceptive devices to a patient and establishes the procedures the pharmacist must follow to do so. Specifically, **section 4** requires such a pharmacist to: (1) complete a program related to prescribing or ordering contraceptive supplies; (2) provide a self-screening risk assessment tool that the patient must complete before the pharmacist prescribes or orders any contraceptive supplies; (3) advise the patient to consult with the primary care provider of the patient upon prescribing or ordering and dispensing the contraceptive supplies or to consult a provider of health care if the patient does not have a primary care provider; (4) provide the patient with a written record of the contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed; and (5) dispense the contraceptive supplies as soon as practicable after the pharmacist issues the prescription or order. **Section 4** prohibits such a pharmacist from requiring a patient to schedule an appointment

with the pharmacist for the prescribing or ordering or the dispensing of contraceptive supplies. **Section 10** of this bill makes conforming changes.

Existing law defines the term "practice of pharmacy." (NRS 639.0124) **Section 6** of this bill provides that the practice of pharmacy includes the prescribing or ordering and the dispensing of contraceptive supplies by a pharmacist in accordance with **section 4**.

Existing law sets forth the procedures for renewing a certificate as a registered pharmacist. (NRS 639.180) Existing law further requires an applicant for the renewal of his or her certificate as a registered pharmacist to complete a certain number of continuing education units. (NRS 639.2174) **Sections 7 and 9** of this bill require a pharmacist who prescribes or orders and dispenses contraceptive supplies in accordance with **section 4** to complete, once every 3 years, a program related to prescribing or ordering contraceptive supplies before his or her registration as a pharmacist may be renewed.

Existing law authorizes the State Board of Pharmacy to suspend or revoke any certificate to practice as a registered pharmacist if the holder of or applicant for such a certificate commits certain acts. (NRS 639.210) **Section 8** of this bill authorizes the Board to suspend or revoke any certificate to practice as a registered pharmacist if the holder or applicant has prescribed or ordered or dispensed contraceptive supplies without complying with the provisions of **section 4**.

Existing law requires the State Plan for Medicaid to pay the nonfederal share of expenditures incurred for certain contraceptive drugs and devices, including: (1) up to a 12-month supply of contraceptives; and (2) certain devices for contraception. (NRS 422.27172) **Section 11** of this bill requires the State Plan for Medicaid to pay the nonfederal share of expenditures incurred for contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist in accordance with **section 4**.

Existing law requires certain contraceptive drugs and devices to be covered by a health insurance plan, including: (1) up to a 12-month supply of contraceptives; and (2) certain devices for contraception. (NRS 287.010, 287.04335, 689A.0418, 689B.0378, 689C.1676, 695A.1865, 695B.1919, 695C.1696, 695G.1715) **Sections 12-18** of this bill require health insurance plans to cover contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist in accordance with **section 4**.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 639 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

Sec. 2. ***"Contraceptive supplies" means any of the following that may be self-administered by a patient:***

1. A drug to be used for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

2. Any type of device for contraception which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration

Sec. 3. ***"Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:***

1. Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

2. Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

3. Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 4. ***1. A pharmacist may prescribe or order and dispense in accordance with NRS 639.28075, if applicable, contraceptive supplies to a patient regardless of whether the patient has evidence of a previous prescription or order for contraceptive supplies from:***

(a) A physician who holds a license to practice his or her profession in this State;

(b) An advanced practice registered nurse who has been authorized to prescribe controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs and devices;

(c) A physician assistant who is authorized by the Board to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs or devices under the supervision of a physician as a required by chapter 630 of NRS or an osteopathic physician as required by chapter 633 of NRS; or

(d) A provider of health care who has been authorized to prescribe controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs or devices.

2. A pharmacist who prescribes or orders and dispenses contraceptive supplies pursuant to subsection 1 shall:

(a) Complete a program related to prescribing or ordering contraceptive supplies that is:

(1) Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or its successor organization; and

(2) Approved by the Board.

(b) Provide a self-screening risk assessment tool that the patient must complete before the pharmacist prescribes or orders any contraceptive supplies. Such a self-screening risk assessment tool must be based on the current version of the United States Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use developed by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

(c) Advise the patient to consult with the primary care provider of the patient upon prescribing or ordering and dispensing the contraceptive supplies. If the patient does not have a primary care provider, the pharmacist shall advise the patient to consult:

(1) A physician who holds a license to practice his or her profession in this State;

(2) An advanced practice registered nurse who has been authorized to prescribe controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs or devices;

(3) A physician assistant who is authorized by the Board to possess, administer, prescribe or dispense controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs or devices under the supervision of a physician as a required by chapter 630 of NRS or an osteopathic physician as required by chapter 633 of NRS; or

(4) A provider of health care who has been authorized to prescribe controlled substances, poisons, dangerous drugs or devices.

(d) Provide the patient with a written record of the contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed and advise the patient to consult with the primary care provider of the patient or a provider of health care of the patient's choice.

(e) Dispense the contraceptive supplies to the patient as soon as practicable after the pharmacist issues the prescription or order.

3. A pharmacist who prescribes or orders and dispenses contraceptive supplies pursuant to subsection 1 shall not require a patient to schedule an appointment with the pharmacist for the prescribing or ordering or the dispensing of contraceptive supplies.

4. As used in this section:

(a) "Primary care provider" means a provider of health care who provides or has provided care to the patient.

(b) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

Sec. 5. NRS 639.001 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.001 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 639.0015 to 639.016, inclusive, ***and sections 2 and 3 of this act*** have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 6. NRS 639.0124 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.0124 ***1.*** "Practice of pharmacy" includes, but is not limited to, the:

~~[1.]~~ ***(a)*** Performance or supervision of activities associated with manufacturing, compounding, labeling, dispensing and distributing of a drug, including the receipt, handling and storage of prescriptions and other confidential information relating to patients.

~~[2.]~~ ***(b)*** Interpretation and evaluation of prescriptions or orders for medicine.

~~[3.]~~ ***(c)*** Participation in drug evaluation and drug research.

~~[4.]~~ ***(d)*** Advising of the therapeutic value, reaction, drug interaction, hazard and use of a drug.

~~[5.]~~ ***(e)*** Selection of the source, storage and distribution of a drug.

~~[6.]~~ ***(f)*** Maintenance of proper documentation of the source, storage and distribution of a drug.

~~[7.]~~ ***(g)*** Interpretation of clinical data contained in a person's record of medication.

~~[8.]~~ ***(h)*** Development of written guidelines and protocols in collaboration with a practitioner which are intended for a patient in a licensed medical facility or in a setting that is affiliated with a medical facility where the patient is receiving care and which authorize collaborative drug therapy management. The written guidelines and protocols must comply with NRS 639.2809.

~~[9.]~~ ***(i)*** Implementation and modification of drug therapy, administering drugs and ordering and performing tests in accordance with a collaborative practice agreement.

(j) Prescribing or ordering and the dispensing of contraceptive supplies pursuant to section 4 of this act.

~~[→]~~ ***2.*** The term does not include the changing of a prescription by a pharmacist or practitioner without the consent of the prescribing practitioner, except as otherwise provided in NRS 639.2583 ~~[.]~~ ***and section 4 of this act.***

Sec. 7. NRS 639.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.180 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a certificate, license or permit issued by the Board pursuant to this chapter expires on October 31 of each even-numbered year. A certificate of registration as a pharmacist expires on October 31 of each odd-numbered year.

2. Except as otherwise provided by NRS 639.137, 639.230 and 639.2328, each person to whom a certificate, license or permit has been issued may, if the certificate, license or permit has not been revoked, renew the certificate, license or permit biennially by:

(a) Filing an application for renewal;

(b) Paying the fee for renewal;

(c) Complying with the requirement of continuing professional education, if applicable;

(d) ***If the person is a pharmacist who prescribes or orders and dispenses contraceptive supplies pursuant to section 4 of this act, submitting proof to the Board that, during the immediately preceding 3 years, the person successfully completed a program related to prescribing or ordering contraceptive supplies that is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or its successor organization and approved by the Board;***

(e) If applicable, filing with the Board satisfactory evidence that his or her surety bond or other security required by NRS 639.515 is in full force; and

~~[(c)]~~ ***(f)*** Submitting all information required to complete the renewal.

3. The application for renewal, together with the fee for renewal, all required information and the evidence of compliance with NRS 639.515 must be delivered to the Executive Secretary of the Board on or before the expiration date of the certificate, license or permit, or the current renewal receipt thereof.

4. If a certificate, license or permit is renewed, it must be delivered to the applicant within a reasonable time after receipt of the application for renewal and the fee for renewal.

5. The Board may refuse to renew a certificate, license or permit if the applicant has committed any act proscribed by NRS 639.210.

6. If the application for renewal, the fee for renewal, all required information and the evidence of compliance with NRS 639.515 are not postmarked on or before the expiration date of the certificate, license or permit, or the current renewal receipt thereof, the registration is automatically forfeited.

Sec. 8. NRS 639.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.210 The Board may suspend or revoke any certificate, license, registration or permit issued pursuant to this chapter, and deny the application of any person for a certificate, license, registration or permit, if the holder or applicant:

1. Is not of good moral character;

2. Is guilty of habitual intemperance;

3. Becomes or is intoxicated or under the influence of liquor, any depressant drug or a controlled substance, unless taken pursuant to a lawfully issued prescription, while on duty in any establishment licensed by the Board;

4. Is guilty of unprofessional conduct or conduct contrary to the public interest;

5. Is addicted to the use of any controlled substance;

6. Has been convicted of a violation of any law or regulation of the Federal Government or of this or any other state related to controlled substances, dangerous drugs, drug samples, or the wholesale or retail distribution of drugs;

7. Has been convicted of:

(a) A felony relating to holding a certificate, license, registration or permit pursuant to this chapter;

(b) A felony pursuant to NRS 639.550 or 639.555; or

(c) Other crime involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption;

8. Has been convicted of violating any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive;

9. Has willfully made to the Board or its authorized representative any false statement which is material to the administration or enforcement of any of the provisions of this chapter;

10. Has obtained any certificate, certification, license or permit by the filing of an application, or any record, affidavit or other information in support thereof, which is false or fraudulent;

11. Has violated any provision of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act or any other federal law or regulation relating to prescription drugs;

12. Has violated, attempted to violate, assisted or abetted in the violation of or conspired to violate any of the provisions of this chapter or any law or regulation relating to drugs, the manufacture or distribution of drugs or the practice of pharmacy, or has knowingly permitted, allowed, condoned or failed to report a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter or any law or regulation relating to drugs, the manufacture or distribution of drugs or the practice of pharmacy committed by the holder of a certificate, license, registration or permit;

13. Has failed to renew a certificate, license or permit by failing to submit the application for renewal or pay the renewal fee therefor;

14. Has had a certificate, license or permit suspended or revoked in another state on grounds which would cause suspension or revocation of a certificate, license or permit in this State;

15. Has, as a managing pharmacist, violated any provision of law or regulation concerning recordkeeping or inventory in a store over which he or she presides, or has knowingly allowed a violation of any provision of this chapter or other state or federal laws or regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy by personnel of the pharmacy under his or her supervision;

16. Has repeatedly been negligent, which may be evidenced by claims of malpractice settled against him or her;

17. Has failed to maintain and make available to a state or federal officer any records in accordance with the provisions of this chapter or chapter 453 or 454 of NRS;

18. Has failed to file or maintain a bond or other security if required by NRS 639.515; ~~[or]~~

19. ***Has prescribed or ordered or dispensed contraceptive supplies without complying with section 4 of this act; or***

20. Has operated a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, at any time during which:

(a) The license of the facility was suspended or revoked; or

(b) An act or omission occurred which resulted in the suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.

➥ This subsection applies to an owner or other principal responsible for the operation of the facility.

Sec. 9. NRS 639.2174 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.2174 The Board shall not renew the certificate of any registered pharmacist until the applicant has submitted proof to the Board of ~~[the]~~ ***:***

1. The receipt of the required number of continuing education units, obtained through the satisfactory completion of an accredited program of continuing professional education during the period for which the certificate was issued ~~[.]~~ ***; and***

2. If the person is a pharmacist who prescribes or orders and dispenses contraceptive supplies pursuant to section 4 of this act, the successful completion, within the immediately preceding 3 years, of a program related to prescribing or ordering contraceptive supplies that is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or its successor organization and approved by the Board.

Sec. 10. NRS 639.28075 is hereby amended to read as follows:

639.28075 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, pursuant to a valid prescription or order for a drug to be used for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration ***,*** a pharmacist shall:

(a) The first time dispensing the drug or therapeutic equivalent to the patient, dispense up to a 3-month supply of the drug or therapeutic equivalent.

(b) The second time dispensing the drug or therapeutic equivalent to the patient, dispense up to a 9-month supply of the drug or therapeutic equivalent, or any amount which covers the remainder of the plan year if the patient is covered by a health care plan, whichever is less.

(c) For a refill in a plan year following the initial dispensing of a drug or therapeutic equivalent pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b), dispense up to a 12-month supply of the drug or therapeutic equivalent or any amount which covers the remainder of the plan year if the patient is covered by a health care plan, whichever is less.

2. The provisions of paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection 1 only apply if:

(a) The drug for contraception or the therapeutic equivalent of such drug is the same drug or therapeutic equivalent which was previously prescribed or ordered pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1; and

(b) The patient is covered by the same health care plan.

3. If a prescription or order for a drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent limits the dispensing of the drug or

therapeutic equivalent to a quantity which is less than the amount otherwise authorized to be dispensed pursuant to subsection 1, the pharmacist must dispense the drug or therapeutic equivalent in accordance with the quantity specified in the prescription or order.

4. As used in this section:

(a) "Health care plan" means a policy, contract, certificate or agreement offered or issued by an insurer, including without limitation, the State Plan for Medicaid, to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for or reimburse any of the costs of health care services.

(b) "Plan year" means the year designated in the evidence of coverage of a health care plan in which a person is covered by such plan.

~~[(c) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:~~

~~(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;~~

~~(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and~~

~~(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.]~~

Sec. 11. NRS 422.27172 is hereby amended to read as follows:

422.27172 1. The Director shall include in the State Plan for Medicaid a requirement that the State pay the nonfederal share of expenditures incurred for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is lawfully prescribed or ordered and which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion or removal of a device for contraception;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraceptives and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 4 and 5, to obtain any benefit provided in the Plan pursuant to subsection 1, a person enrolled in Medicaid must not be required to:

(a) Pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance; or

(b) Be subject to a longer waiting period or any other condition.

3. The Director shall ensure that the provisions of this section are carried out in a manner which complies with the requirements established by the Drug Use Review Board and set forth in the list of preferred prescription drugs established by the Department pursuant to NRS 422.4025.

4. The Plan may require a person enrolled in Medicaid to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for contraception if the person refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the contraceptive drug.

5. For each method of contraception which is approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the Plan must include at least one contraceptive drug or device for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the person enrolled in Medicaid, but the Plan may charge a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for any other contraceptive drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

6. As used in this section:

(a) "Drug Use Review Board" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 422.402.

(b) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 12. NRS 689A.0418 is hereby amended to read as follows:

689A.0418 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, an insurer that offers or issues a policy of health insurance shall include in the policy coverage for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(3) Listed in subsection 10; and

(4) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Listed in subsection 10;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion of a device for contraception or removal of such a device if the device was inserted while the insured was covered by the same policy of health insurance;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraception and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. An insurer must ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the insurer.

3. If a covered therapeutic equivalent listed in subsection 1 is not available or a provider of health care deems a covered therapeutic equivalent to be medically inappropriate, an alternate therapeutic equivalent prescribed by a provider of health care must be covered by the insurer.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 8, 9 and 11, an insurer that offers or issues a policy of health insurance shall not:

(a) Require an insured to pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance or require a longer waiting period or other condition for coverage to obtain any benefit included in the policy pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) Refuse to issue a policy of health insurance or cancel a policy of health insurance solely because the person applying for or covered by the policy uses or may use any such benefit;

(c) Offer or pay any type of material inducement or financial incentive to an insured to discourage the insured from obtaining any such benefit;

(d) Penalize a provider of health care who provides any such benefit to an insured, including, without limitation, reducing the reimbursement of the provider of health care;

(e) Offer or pay any type of material inducement, bonus or other financial incentive to a provider of health care to deny, reduce, withhold, limit or delay access to any such benefit to an insured; or

(f) Impose any other restrictions or delays on the access of an insured any such benefit.

5. Coverage pursuant to this section for the covered dependent of an insured must be the same as for the insured.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a policy subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after January 1, 2018, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the policy or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

7. An insurer that offers or issues a policy of health insurance and which is affiliated with a religious organization is not required to provide the coverage required by subsection 1 if the insurer objects on religious grounds. Such an insurer shall, before the issuance of a policy of health insurance and before the renewal of such a policy, provide to the prospective insured written notice of the coverage that the insurer refuses to provide pursuant to this subsection.

8. An insurer may require an insured to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for contraception if the insured refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the drug.

9. For each of the 18 methods of contraception listed in subsection 10 that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, a policy of health insurance must include at least one drug or device for contraception within each method for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the insured, but the insurer may charge a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for any other drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

10. The following 18 methods of contraception must be covered pursuant to this section:

(a) Voluntary sterilization for women;
(b) Surgical sterilization implants for women;
(c) Implantable rods;
(d) Copper-based intrauterine devices;
(e) Progesterone-based intrauterine devices;
(f) Injections;
(g) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs;
(h) Progestin-based drugs;
(i) Extended- or continuous-regimen drugs;
(j) Estrogen- and progestin-based patches;
(k) Vaginal contraceptive rings;
(l) Diaphragms with spermicide;
(m) Sponges with spermicide;
(n) Cervical caps with spermicide;
(o) Female condoms;
(p) Spermicide;

(q) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception or progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception; and

(r) Ulipristal acetate for emergency contraception.

11. Except as otherwise provided in this section and federal law, an insurer may use medical management techniques, including, without limitation, any available clinical evidence, to determine the frequency of or treatment relating to any benefit required by this section or the type of provider of health care to use for such treatment.

12. An insurer shall not use medical management techniques to require an insured to use a method of contraception other than the method prescribed or ordered by a provider of health care.

13. An insurer must provide an accessible, transparent and expedited process which is not unduly burdensome by which an insured, or the authorized representative of the insured, may request an exception relating to any medical management technique used by the insurer to obtain any benefit required by this section without a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance.

14. As used in this section:

(a) "Medical management technique" means a practice which is used to control the cost or utilization of health care services or prescription drug use. The term includes, without limitation, the use of step therapy, prior authorization or categorizing drugs and devices based on cost, type or method of administration.

(b) "Network plan" means a policy of health insurance offered by an insurer under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the insurer. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(c) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

(d) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 13. NRS 689B.0378 is hereby amended to read as follows:

689B.0378 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, an insurer that offers or issues a policy of group health insurance shall include in the policy coverage for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(3) Listed in subsection 11; and

(4) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Listed in subsection 11;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion of a device for contraception or removal of such a device if the device was inserted while the insured was covered by the same policy of group health insurance;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraception and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. An insurer must ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the insurer.

3. If a covered therapeutic equivalent listed in subsection 1 is not available or a provider of health care deems a covered therapeutic equivalent to be medically inappropriate, an alternate therapeutic equivalent prescribed by a provider of health care must be covered by the insurer.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 9, 10 and 12, an insurer that offers or issues a policy of group health insurance shall not:

(a) Require an insured to pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance or require a longer waiting period or other condition to obtain any benefit included in the policy pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) Refuse to issue a policy of group health insurance or cancel a policy of group health insurance solely because the person applying for or covered by the policy uses or may use any such benefit;

(c) Offer or pay any type of material inducement or financial incentive to an insured to discourage the insured from obtaining any such benefit;

(d) Penalize a provider of health care who provides any such benefit to an insured, including, without limitation, reducing the reimbursement to the provider of health care;

(e) Offer or pay any type of material inducement, bonus or other financial incentive to a provider of health care to deny, reduce, withhold, limit or delay access to any such benefit to an insured; or

(f) Impose any other restrictions or delays on the access of an insured to any such benefit.

5. Coverage pursuant to this section for the covered dependent of an insured must be the same as for the insured.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a policy subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after January 1, 2018, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the policy or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

7. An insurer that offers or issues a policy of group health insurance and which is affiliated with a religious organization is not required to provide the coverage required by subsection 1 if the insurer objects on religious grounds. Such an insurer shall, before the issuance of a policy of group health insurance and before the renewal of such a policy, provide to the group policyholder or prospective insured, as applicable, written notice of the coverage that the insurer refuses to provide pursuant to this subsection.

8. If an insurer refuses, pursuant to subsection 7, to provide the coverage required by subsection 1, an employer may otherwise provide for the coverage for the employees of the employer.

9. An insurer may require an insured to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for contraception if the insured refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the drug.

10. For each of the 18 methods of contraception listed in subsection 11 that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, a policy of group health insurance must include at least one drug or device for contraception within each method for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the insured, but the insurer may charge a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for any other drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

11. The following 18 methods of contraception must be covered pursuant to this section:

(a) Voluntary sterilization for women;

(b) Surgical sterilization implants for women;

(c) Implantable rods;
(d) Copper-based intrauterine devices;
(e) Progesterone-based intrauterine devices;
(f) Injections;
(g) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs;
(h) Progestin-based drugs;
(i) Extended- or continuous-regimen drugs;
(j) Estrogen- and progestin-based patches;
(k) Vaginal contraceptive rings;
(l) Diaphragms with spermicide;
(m) Sponges with spermicide;
(n) Cervical caps with spermicide;
(o) Female condoms;
(p) Spermicide;
(q) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception or progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception; and
(r) Ulipristal acetate for emergency contraception.

12. Except as otherwise provided in this section and federal law, an insurer may use medical management techniques, including, without limitation, any available clinical evidence, to determine the frequency of or treatment relating to any benefit required by this section or the type of provider of health care to use for such treatment.

13. An insurer shall not use medical management techniques to require an insured to use a method of contraception other than the method prescribed or ordered by a provider of health care.

14. An insurer must provide an accessible, transparent and expedited process which is not unduly burdensome by which an insured, or the authorized representative of the insured, may request an exception relating to any medical management technique used by the insurer to obtain any benefit required by this section without a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance.

15. As used in this section:

(a) "Medical management technique" means a practice which is used to control the cost or utilization of health care services or prescription drug use. The term includes, without limitation, the use of step therapy, prior authorization or categorizing drugs and devices based on cost, type or method of administration.

(b) "Network plan" means a policy of group health insurance offered by an insurer under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the insurer. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(c) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

(d) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 14. NRS 689C.1676 is hereby amended to read as follows:

689C.1676 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a carrier that offers or issues a health benefit plan shall include in the plan coverage for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(3) Listed in subsection 10; and

(4) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Listed in subsection 10;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion of a device for contraception or removal of such a device if the device was inserted while the insured was covered by the same health benefit plan;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraception and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. A carrier must ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the carrier.

3. If a covered therapeutic equivalent listed in subsection 1 is not available or a provider of health care deems a covered therapeutic equivalent to be medically inappropriate, an alternate therapeutic equivalent prescribed by a provider of health care must be covered by the carrier.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 8, 9 and 11, a carrier that offers or issues a health benefit plan shall not:

(a) Require an insured to pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance or require a longer waiting period or other condition to obtain any benefit included in the health benefit plan pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) Refuse to issue a health benefit plan or cancel a health benefit plan solely because the person applying for or covered by the plan uses or may use any such benefit;

(c) Offer or pay any type of material inducement or financial incentive to an insured to discourage the insured from obtaining any such benefit;

(d) Penalize a provider of health care who provides any such benefit to an insured, including, without limitation, reducing the reimbursement to the provider of health care;

(e) Offer or pay any type of material inducement, bonus or other financial incentive to a provider of health care to deny, reduce, withhold, limit or delay access to any such benefit to an insured; or

(f) Impose any other restrictions or delays on the access of an insured to any such benefit.

5. Coverage pursuant to this section for the covered dependent of an insured must be the same as for the insured.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a health benefit plan subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after January 1, 2018, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the plan or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

7. A carrier that offers or issues a health benefit plan and which is affiliated with a religious organization is not required to provide the coverage required by subsection 1 if the carrier objects on religious grounds. Such a carrier shall, before the issuance of a health benefit plan and before the renewal of such a plan, provide to the prospective insured written notice of the coverage that the carrier refuses to provide pursuant to this subsection.

8. A carrier may require an insured to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for contraception if the insured refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the drug.

9. For each of the 18 methods of contraception listed in subsection 10 that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, a health benefit plan must include at least one drug or device for contraception within each method for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the insured, but the carrier may charge a deductible, copayment or

coinsurance for any other drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

10. The following 18 methods of contraception must be covered pursuant to this section:

(a) Voluntary sterilization for women;

(b) Surgical sterilization implants for women;

(c) Implantable rods;

(d) Copper-based intrauterine devices;

(e) Progesterone-based intrauterine devices;

(f) Injections;

(g) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs;

(h) Progestin-based drugs;

(i) Extended- or continuous-regimen drugs;

(j) Estrogen- and progestin-based patches;

(k) Vaginal contraceptive rings;

(l) Diaphragms with spermicide;

(m) Sponges with spermicide;

(n) Cervical caps with spermicide;

(o) Female condoms;

(p) Spermicide;

(q) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception or progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception; and

(r) Ulipristal acetate for emergency contraception.

11. Except as otherwise provided in this section and federal law, a carrier may use medical management techniques, including, without limitation, any available clinical evidence, to determine the frequency of or treatment relating to any benefit required by this section or the type of provider of health care to use for such treatment.

12. A carrier shall not use medical management techniques to require an insured to use a method of contraception other than the method prescribed or ordered by a provider of health care.

13. A carrier must provide an accessible, transparent and expedited process which is not unduly burdensome by which an insured, or the authorized representative of the insured, may request an exception relating to any medical management technique used by the carrier to obtain any benefit required by this section without a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance.

14. As used in this section:

(a) "Medical management technique" means a practice which is used to control the cost or utilization of health care services or prescription drug use. The term includes, without limitation, the use of step therapy, prior authorization or categorizing drugs and devices based on cost, type or method of administration.

(b) "Network plan" means a health benefit plan offered by a carrier under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the carrier. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(c) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

(d) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 15. NRS 695A.1865 is hereby amended to read as follows:

695A.1865 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a society that offers or issues a benefit contract which provides coverage for prescription drugs or devices shall include in the contract coverage for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(3) Listed in subsection 10; and

(4) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Listed in subsection 10;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion of a device for contraception or removal of such a device if the device was inserted while the insured was covered by the same benefit contract;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraception and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. A society must ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the society.

3. If a covered therapeutic equivalent listed in subsection 1 is not available or a provider of health care deems a covered therapeutic equivalent to be medically inappropriate, an alternate therapeutic equivalent prescribed by a provider of health care must be covered by the society.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 8, 9 and 11, a society that offers or issues a benefit contract shall not:

(a) Require an insured to pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance or require a longer waiting period or other condition for coverage for any benefit included in the benefit contract pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) Refuse to issue a benefit contract or cancel a benefit contract solely because the person applying for or covered by the contract uses or may use any such benefit;

(c) Offer or pay any type of material inducement or financial incentive to an insured to discourage the insured from obtaining any such benefit;

(d) Penalize a provider of health care who provides any such benefit to an insured, including, without limitation, reducing the reimbursement to the provider of health care;

(e) Offer or pay any type of material inducement, bonus or other financial incentive to a provider of health care to deny, reduce, withhold, limit or delay access to any such benefit to an insured; or

(f) Impose any other restrictions or delays on the access of an insured to any such benefit.

5. Coverage pursuant to this section for the covered dependent of an insured must be the same as for the insured.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a benefit contract subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after January 1, 2018, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the contract or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

7. A society that offers or issues a benefit contract and which is affiliated with a religious organization is not required to provide the coverage required by subsection 1 if the society objects on religious grounds. Such a society shall, before the issuance of a benefit contract and before the renewal of such a contract, provide to the prospective insured written notice of the coverage that the society refuses to provide pursuant to this subsection.

8. A society may require an insured to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for contraception if the insured refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the drug.

9. For each of the 18 methods of contraception listed in subsection 10 that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, a benefit contract must include at least one drug or device for contraception within each method for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the insured, but the society may charge a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for any other drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

10. The following 18 methods of contraception must be covered pursuant to this section:

(a) Voluntary sterilization for women;

(b) Surgical sterilization implants for women;

(c) Implantable rods;

(d) Copper-based intrauterine devices;

(e) Progesterone-based intrauterine devices;

(f) Injections;

(g) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs;

(h) Progestin-based drugs;

(i) Extended- or continuous-regimen drugs;

(j) Estrogen- and progestin-based patches;

(k) Vaginal contraceptive rings;

(l) Diaphragms with spermicide;

(m) Sponges with spermicide;

(n) Cervical caps with spermicide;

(o) Female condoms;

(p) Spermicide;

(q) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception or progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception; and

(r) Ulipristal acetate for emergency contraception.

11. Except as otherwise provided in this section and federal law, a society may use medical management techniques, including, without limitation, any available clinical evidence, to determine the frequency of or treatment relating to any benefit required by this section or the type of provider of health care to use for such treatment.

12. A society shall not use medical management techniques to require an insured to use a method of contraception other than the method prescribed or ordered by a provider of health care.

13. A society must provide an accessible, transparent and expedited process which is not unduly burdensome by which an insured, or the authorized representative of the insured, may request

an exception relating to any medical management technique used by the society to obtain any benefit required by this section without a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance.

14. As used in this section:

(a) "Medical management technique" means a practice which is used to control the cost or utilization of health care services or prescription drug use. The term includes, without limitation, the use of step therapy, prior authorization or categorizing drugs and devices based on cost, type or method of administration.

(b) "Network plan" means a benefit contract offered by a society under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the society. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(c) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

(d) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 16. NRS 695B.1919 is hereby amended to read as follows:

695B.1919 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, an insurer that offers or issues a contract for hospital or medical service shall include in the contract coverage for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(3) Listed in subsection 11; and

(4) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Listed in subsection 11;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion of a device for contraception or removal of such a device if the device was inserted while the insured was covered by the same contract for hospital or medical service;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraception and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. An insurer that offers or issues a contract for hospital or medical services must ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the insurer.

3. If a covered therapeutic equivalent listed in subsection 1 is not available or a provider of health care deems a covered therapeutic equivalent to be medically inappropriate, an alternate therapeutic equivalent prescribed by a provider of health care must be covered by the insurer.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 9, 10 and 12, an insurer that offers or issues a contract for hospital or medical service shall not:

(a) Require an insured to pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance or require a longer waiting period or other condition to obtain any benefit included in the contract for hospital or medical service pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) Refuse to issue a contract for hospital or medical service or cancel a contract for hospital or medical service solely because the person applying for or covered by the contract uses or may use any such benefit;

(c) Offer or pay any type of material inducement or financial incentive to an insured to discourage the insured from obtaining any such benefit;

(d) Penalize a provider of health care who provides any such benefit to an insured, including, without limitation, reducing the reimbursement to the provider of health care;

(e) Offer or pay any type of material inducement, bonus or other financial incentive to a provider of health care to deny, reduce, withhold, limit or delay access to any such benefit to an insured; or

(f) Impose any other restrictions or delays on the access of an insured to any such benefit.

5. Coverage pursuant to this section for the covered dependent of an insured must be the same as for the insured.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a contract for hospital or medical service subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after

January 1, 2018, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the contract or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

7. An insurer that offers or issues a contract for hospital or medical service and which is affiliated with a religious organization is not required to provide the coverage required by subsection 1 if the insurer objects on religious grounds. Such an insurer shall, before the issuance of a contract for hospital or medical service and before the renewal of such a contract, provide to the prospective insured written notice of the coverage that the insurer refuses to provide pursuant to this subsection.

8. If an insurer refuses, pursuant to subsection 7, to provide the coverage required by subsection 1, an employer may otherwise provide for the coverage for the employees of the employer.

9. An insurer may require an insured to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for contraception if the insured refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the drug.

10. For each of the 18 methods of contraception listed in subsection 11 that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, a contract for hospital or medical service must include at least one drug or device for contraception within each method for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the insured, but the insurer may charge a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for any other drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

11. The following 18 methods of contraception must be covered pursuant to this section:

(a) Voluntary sterilization for women;
(b) Surgical sterilization implants for women;
(c) Implantable rods;
(d) Copper-based intrauterine devices;
(e) Progesterone-based intrauterine devices;
(f) Injections;
(g) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs;
(h) Progestin-based drugs;
(i) Extended- or continuous-regimen drugs;
(j) Estrogen- and progestin-based patches;
(k) Vaginal contraceptive rings;
(l) Diaphragms with spermicide;
(m) Sponges with spermicide;
(n) Cervical caps with spermicide;
(o) Female condoms;
(p) Spermicide;

(q) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception or progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception; and

(r) Ulipristal acetate for emergency contraception.

12. Except as otherwise provided in this section and federal law, an insurer that offers or issues a contract for hospital or medical services may use medical management techniques, including, without limitation, any available clinical evidence, to determine the frequency of or treatment relating to any benefit required by this section or the type of provider of health care to use for such treatment.

13. An insurer shall not use medical management techniques to require an insured to use a method of contraception other than the method prescribed or ordered by a provider of health care.

14. An insurer must provide an accessible, transparent and expedited process which is not unduly burdensome by which an insured, or the authorized representative of the insured, may request an exception relating to any medical management technique used by the insurer to obtain any benefit required by this section without a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance.

15. As used in this section:

(a) "Medical management technique" means a practice which is used to control the cost or utilization of health care services or prescription drug use. The term includes, without limitation, the use of step therapy, prior authorization or categorizing drugs and devices based on cost, type or method of administration.

(b) "Network plan" means a contract for hospital or medical service offered by an insurer under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the insurer. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(c) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

(d) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 17. NRS 695C.1696 is hereby amended to read as follows:

695C.1696 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a health maintenance organization that offers or issues a health care plan shall include in the plan coverage for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(3) Listed in subsection 11; and

(4) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Listed in subsection 11;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion of a device for contraception or removal of such a device if the device was inserted while the enrollee was covered by the same health care plan;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraception and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. A health maintenance organization must ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an enrollee through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the health maintenance organization.

3. If a covered therapeutic equivalent listed in subsection 1 is not available or a provider of health care deems a covered therapeutic equivalent to be medically inappropriate, an alternate therapeutic equivalent prescribed by a provider of health care must be covered by the health maintenance organization.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 9, 10 and 12, a health maintenance organization that offers or issues a health care plan shall not:

(a) Require an enrollee to pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance or require a longer waiting period or other condition to obtain any benefit included in the health care plan pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) Refuse to issue a health care plan or cancel a health care plan solely because the person applying for or covered by the plan uses or may use any such benefit;

(c) Offer or pay any type of material inducement or financial incentive to an enrollee to discourage the enrollee from obtaining any such benefit;

(d) Penalize a provider of health care who provides any such benefit to an enrollee, including, without limitation, reducing the reimbursement of the provider of health care;

(e) Offer or pay any type of material inducement, bonus or other financial incentive to a provider of health care to deny, reduce, withhold, limit or delay access to any such benefit to an enrollee; or

(f) Impose any other restrictions or delays on the access of an enrollee to any such benefit.

5. Coverage pursuant to this section for the covered dependent of an enrollee must be the same as for the enrollee.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a health care plan subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after January 1, 2018, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the plan or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

7. A health maintenance organization that offers or issues a health care plan and which is affiliated with a religious organization is not required to provide the coverage required by subsection 1 if the health maintenance organization objects on religious grounds. Such an organization shall, before the issuance of a health care plan and before the renewal of such a plan, provide to the prospective enrollee written notice of the coverage that the health maintenance organization refuses to provide pursuant to this subsection.

8. If a health maintenance organization refuses, pursuant to subsection 7, to provide the coverage required by subsection 1, an employer may otherwise provide for the coverage for the employees of the employer.

9. A health maintenance organization may require an enrollee to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for contraception if the enrollee refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the drug.

10. For each of the 18 methods of contraception listed in subsection 11 that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, a health care plan must include at least one drug or device for contraception within each method for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the enrollee, but the health maintenance organization may charge a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for any other drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

11. The following 18 methods of contraception must be covered pursuant to this section:

(a) Voluntary sterilization for women;
(b) Surgical sterilization implants for women;
(c) Implantable rods;
(d) Copper-based intrauterine devices;
(e) Progesterone-based intrauterine devices;
(f) Injections;
(g) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs;
(h) Progestin-based drugs;
(i) Extended- or continuous-regimen drugs;
(j) Estrogen- and progestin-based patches;
(k) Vaginal contraceptive rings;
(l) Diaphragms with spermicide;
(m) Sponges with spermicide;
(n) Cervical caps with spermicide;
(o) Female condoms;
(p) Spermicide;
(q) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception or progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception; and
(r) Ulipristal acetate for emergency contraception.

12. Except as otherwise provided in this section and federal law, a health maintenance organization may use medical management techniques, including, without limitation, any available clinical evidence, to determine the frequency of or treatment relating to any benefit required by this section or the type of provider of health care to use for such treatment.

13. A health maintenance organization shall not use medical management techniques to require an enrollee to use a method of contraception other than the method prescribed or ordered by a provider of health care.

14. A health maintenance organization must provide an accessible, transparent and expedited process which is not unduly burdensome by which an enrollee, or the authorized representative of the enrollee, may request an exception relating to any medical management technique used by the health maintenance organization to obtain any benefit required by this section without a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance.

15. As used in this section:

(a) "Medical management technique" means a practice which is used to control the cost or utilization of health care services or prescription drug use. The term includes, without limitation, the use of step therapy, prior authorization or categorizing drugs and devices based on cost, type or method of administration.

(b) "Network plan" means a health care plan offered by a health maintenance organization under which the financing and delivery of

medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the health maintenance organization. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(c) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

(d) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 18. NRS 695G.1715 is hereby amended to read as follows:

695G.1715 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a managed care organization that offers or issues a health care plan shall include in the plan coverage for:

(a) Up to a 12-month supply, per prescription, of any type of drug for contraception or its therapeutic equivalent which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration;

(3) Listed in subsection 10; and

(4) Dispensed in accordance with NRS 639.28075;

(b) Any type of device for contraception which is:

(1) Lawfully prescribed or ordered;

(2) Approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(3) Listed in subsection 10;

(c) ***Contraceptive supplies prescribed or ordered and dispensed by a pharmacist pursuant to section 4 of this act;***

(d) Insertion of a device for contraception or removal of such a device if the device was inserted while the insured was covered by the same health care plan;

~~[(d)]~~ ***(e)*** Education and counseling relating to the initiation of the use of contraception and any necessary follow-up after initiating such use;

~~[(e)]~~ ***(f)*** Management of side effects relating to contraception; and

~~[(f)]~~ ***(g)*** Voluntary sterilization for women.

2. A managed care organization must ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the managed care organization.

3. If a covered therapeutic equivalent listed in subsection 1 is not available or a provider of health care deems a covered therapeutic equivalent to be medically inappropriate, an alternate therapeutic equivalent prescribed by a provider of health care must be covered by the managed care organization.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 8, 9 and 11, a managed care organization that offers or issues a health care plan shall not:

(a) Require an insured to pay a higher deductible, any copayment or coinsurance or require a longer waiting period or other condition to obtain any benefit included in the health care plan pursuant to subsection 1;

(b) Refuse to issue a health care plan or cancel a health care plan solely because the person applying for or covered by the plan uses or may use any such benefits;

(c) Offer or pay any type of material inducement or financial incentive to an insured to discourage the insured from obtaining any such benefits;

(d) Penalize a provider of health care who provides any such benefits to an insured, including, without limitation, reducing the reimbursement of the provider of health care;

(e) Offer or pay any type of material inducement, bonus or other financial incentive to a provider of health care to deny, reduce, withhold, limit or delay access to any such benefits to an insured; or

(f) Impose any other restrictions or delays on the access of an insured to any such benefits.

5. Coverage pursuant to this section for the covered dependent of an insured must be the same as for the insured.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a health care plan subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after January 1, 2018, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the plan or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

7. A managed care organization that offers or issues a health care plan and which is affiliated with a religious organization is not required to provide the coverage required by subsection 1 if the managed care organization objects on religious grounds. Such an organization shall, before the issuance of a health care plan and before the renewal of such a plan, provide to the prospective insured written notice of the coverage that the managed care organization refuses to provide pursuant to this subsection.

8. A managed care organization may require an insured to pay a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance for a drug for

contraception if the insured refuses to accept a therapeutic equivalent of the drug.

9. For each of the 18 methods of contraception listed in subsection 10 that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, a health care plan must include at least one drug or device for contraception within each method for which no deductible, copayment or coinsurance may be charged to the insured, but the managed care organization may charge a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for any other drug or device that provides the same method of contraception.

10. The following 18 methods of contraception must be covered pursuant to this section:

(a) Voluntary sterilization for women;

(b) Surgical sterilization implants for women;

(c) Implantable rods;

(d) Copper-based intrauterine devices;

(e) Progesterone-based intrauterine devices;

(f) Injections;

(g) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs;

(h) Progestin-based drugs;

(i) Extended- or continuous-regimen drugs;

(j) Estrogen- and progestin-based patches;

(k) Vaginal contraceptive rings;

(l) Diaphragms with spermicide;

(m) Sponges with spermicide;

(n) Cervical caps with spermicide;

(o) Female condoms;

(p) Spermicide;

(q) Combined estrogen- and progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception or progestin-based drugs for emergency contraception; and

(r) Ulipristal acetate for emergency contraception.

11. Except as otherwise provided in this section and federal law, a managed care organization may use medical management techniques, including, without limitation, any available clinical evidence, to determine the frequency of or treatment relating to any benefit required by this section or the type of provider of health care to use for such treatment.

12. A managed care organization shall not use medical management techniques to require an insured to use a method of contraception other than the method prescribed or ordered by a provider of health care.

13. A managed care organization must provide an accessible, transparent and expedited process which is not unduly burdensome by which an insured, or the authorized representative of the insured,

may request an exception relating to any medical management technique used by the managed care organization to obtain any benefit required by this section without a higher deductible, copayment or coinsurance.

14. As used in this section:

(a) "Medical management technique" means a practice which is used to control the cost or utilization of health care services or prescription drug use. The term includes, without limitation, the use of step therapy, prior authorization or categorizing drugs and devices based on cost, type or method of administration.

(b) "Network plan" means a health care plan offered by a managed care organization under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the managed care organization. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(c) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

(d) "Therapeutic equivalent" means a drug which:

(1) Contains an identical amount of the same active ingredients in the same dosage and method of administration as another drug;

(2) Is expected to have the same clinical effect when administered to a patient pursuant to a prescription or order as another drug; and

(3) Meets any other criteria required by the Food and Drug Administration for classification as a therapeutic equivalent.

Sec. 19. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 20. This act becomes effective:

1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

2. On January 1, 2020, for all other purposes.

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