



From April 27, 2017

HEALTH CARE

SB 182-Relating to Consumer Protection from Nonmedical Changes to Prescription Drug Formularies

On Thursday, April 27th, SB 182, by Senator Debbie Mayfield (R-Melbourne), was read for a third time on the Senate floor and passed with a vote of 37 yeas to 0 nays.

This bill addresses the ability to move or shift prescription drugs within drug formularies by health plans. Currently, health plans have the authority to move prescription drugs to different tiers within the drug formulary, or add/remove certain drugs all together. Health plans use this system if, for instance, a drug has been found to be unsafe for patients or a more cost-efficient alternative has become available. Removing this ability from health plans would not only cause the cost of healthcare to rise but could put patients at risk of taking potentially harmful medications.

SB 182 will now go to the House floor for consideration.

AIF OPPOSES taking away the leverage health plans have to add, remove, or shift drugs within the formulary system as it will increase the cost of health care and pharmaceuticals for Florida's employer community.