

## **HB 3549 (Fine/Morrison), SA#3 SUPPORT**

SA#3 to HB 3549 provides standards for step therapy, that under certain circumstances, patients will be granted access to drugs prescribed by their health care provider. HB 3549 seeks to retain an insurance plan's step therapy program, while providing for an exceptions process when clinically appropriate. HB 3549 also applies medical exceptions procedures, approved by the General Assembly in 2014 for plans on the Exchange, to all plans sold in Illinois.

### **HB 3549, SA#3, contains the following provisions:**

1. Establishes circumstances for approval of a step therapy exception request if:
  - i. The required drug is contraindicated.
  - ii. The patient has tried the required prescription drug while under their current or a previous health benefit plan, and the doctor submits evidence of failure or intolerance.
  - iii. The patient is currently stable on a prescription drug.
2. Applies a medical exceptions process that allows patients to **request** a prescription drug to all health plans in Illinois. Requires a carrier to approve or deny a request within 72 hours of receipt, and in expedited cases, within 24 hours. [Medicare Part D standard]. States that carriers must provide a reason for the denial, an alternative covered medication, if applicable, and information regarding how to appeal the denial. Currently, these provisions apply only to health plans on the Exchange and were approved in HB 3638 by a vote of 114-0-0 in the House and 45-3-3 in the Senate in 2014.
3. Medical exceptions requests shall be granted for 12 months or until the renewal of the plan.
4. Does not apply to Medicaid.

### **Proponents – State Access to Innovative Medications Coalition (SAIM)**

Alliance for Patient Access	Illinois Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Dermatology Association	Illinois Public Health Association
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	Illinois Psychiatric Society
American College of Rheumatology	Illinois State Medical Society
American Diabetes Association	International Pain Foundation
American Liver Foundation	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Arthritis Foundation	Mental Health America of Illinois
Association of Clinical Urologists	Mental Health Summit
Bleeding Disorders Alliance Illinois	Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of Illinois
Celgene	National Alliance on Mental Illness - Illinois
Chicago Chapter of Oncology Nurses Society	National Eczema Society
Chicago Hispanic Health Coalition	National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Chicago Medical Society	National Organization of Rare Disorders
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America	National Psoriasis Foundation
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations	Pfizer
CURE IL	Respiratory Health
Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago	Sangamon County Medical Society
Grow in America	US Pain Foundation