

REFERENCE TITLE: health insurance; hearing aids; children

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

SB 1293

Introduced by

Senators Marsh: Alston, Bowie, Gabaldon, Gonzales, Otondo, Quezada, Stahl
Hamilton; Representatives Andrade, Dalessandro, Jermaine, Liguori, Longdon

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 20, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 20-110; AMENDING TITLE 20, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 20-826.05; AMENDING TITLE 20, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 9, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 20-1057.19; AMENDING TITLE 20, CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 4, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 20-1342.08; AMENDING TITLE 20, CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 5, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTIONS 20-1402.06 AND 20-1404.06; AMENDING TITLE 20, CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 20-2333; RELATING TO HEALTH CARE INSURANCE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 20, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 20-110, to read:

4 20-110. Coverage rates for hearing aids for children;
5 approved provider list; definition

6 A. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY ESTABLISH MINIMUM COVERAGE RATES
7 AND COVERAGE LIMITS FOR HEARING AIDS FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE EIGHTEEN YEARS
8 OF AGE OR YOUNGER. EACH DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING EAR THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR
9 AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED PERCENT COVERAGE OF REASONABLE AND CUSTOMARY HEARING
10 AIDS.

11 B. EVERY TWO YEARS THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AN APPROVED LIST
12 OF AUDIOLOGISTS WHO ARE LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17,
13 ARTICLE 4 AND HEARING AID DISPENSERS WHO ARE LICENSED PURSUANT TO
14 TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17, ARTICLE 2 THAT HEALTH CARE INSURERS IN THIS STATE
15 SHALL USE TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THEIR SUBSCRIBERS, ENROLLEES AND
16 INSUREDS.

17 C. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "HEALTH CARE INSURER" MEANS A
18 SERVICE CORPORATION, HEALTH CARE SERVICES ORGANIZATION, DISABILITY
19 INSURER, GROUP DISABILITY INSURER, BLANKET DISABILITY INSURER OR
20 ACCOUNTABLE HEALTH PLAN.

21 Sec. 2. Title 20, chapter 4, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes,
22 is amended by adding section 20-826.05, to read:

23 20-826.05. Subscription contracts; hearing aids

24 A. A SUBSCRIPTION CONTRACT SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE
25 WITH SECTION 20-110 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HEARING AID FOR EACH DEAF OR
26 HARD OF HEARING EAR FOR A SUBSCRIBER WHO IS COVERED UNDER THE SUBSCRIPTION
27 CONTRACT.

28 B. A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13 OR
29 17 OR AN AUDIOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17,
30 ARTICLE 4 SHALL DOCUMENT THE HEARING LOSS FOR WHICH HEARING AID COVERAGE
31 APPLIES IN EACH DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING EAR.

32 C. A SUBSCRIBER MAY CHOOSE A HIGHER PRICED HEARING AID AND MAY PAY
33 THE DIFFERENCE IN COST ABOVE THE MINIMUM COVERAGE AMOUNT WITHOUT ANY
34 FINANCIAL OR CONTRACTUAL PENALTY TO THE SUBSCRIBER OR TO THE HEARING AID
35 PROVIDER.

36 Sec. 3. Title 20, chapter 4, article 9, Arizona Revised Statutes,
37 is amended by adding section 20-1057.19, to read:

38 20-1057.19. Evidences of coverage; hearing aids

39 A. AN EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE
40 WITH SECTION 20-110 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HEARING AID FOR EACH DEAF OR
41 HARD OF HEARING EAR FOR AN ENROLLEE WHO IS COVERED UNDER THE EVIDENCE OF
42 COVERAGE.

1 B. A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13 OR
2 17 OR AN AUDIOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17,
3 ARTICLE 4 SHALL DOCUMENT THE HEARING LOSS FOR WHICH HEARING AID COVERAGE
4 APPLIES IN EACH DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING EAR.

5 C. AN ENROLLEE MAY CHOOSE A HIGHER PRICED HEARING AID AND MAY PAY
6 THE DIFFERENCE IN COST ABOVE THE MINIMUM COVERAGE AMOUNT WITHOUT ANY
7 FINANCIAL OR CONTRACTUAL PENALTY TO THE ENROLLEE OR TO THE HEARING AID
8 PROVIDER.

9 Sec. 4. Title 20, chapter 6, article 4, Arizona Revised Statutes,
10 is amended by adding section 20-1342.08, to read:

11 20-1342.08. Disability policies; hearing aids

12 A. A DISABILITY POLICY SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
13 SECTION 20-110 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HEARING AID FOR EACH DEAF OR HARD OF
14 HEARING EAR FOR AN INSURED WHO IS COVERED UNDER THE DISABILITY POLICY.

15 B. A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13 OR
16 17 OR AN AUDIOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17,
17 ARTICLE 4 SHALL DOCUMENT THE HEARING LOSS FOR WHICH HEARING AID COVERAGE
18 APPLIES IN EACH DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING EAR.

19 C. AN INSURED MAY CHOOSE A HIGHER PRICED HEARING AID AND MAY PAY
20 THE DIFFERENCE IN COST ABOVE THE MINIMUM COVERAGE AMOUNT WITHOUT ANY
21 FINANCIAL OR CONTRACTUAL PENALTY TO THE INSURED OR TO THE HEARING AID
22 PROVIDER.

23 Sec. 5. Title 20, chapter 6, article 5, Arizona Revised Statutes,
24 is amended by adding sections 20-1402.06 and 20-1404.06, to read:

25 20-1402.06. Group disability policies; hearing aids

26 A. A GROUP DISABILITY POLICY SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE
27 WITH SECTION 20-110 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HEARING AID FOR EACH DEAF OR
28 HARD OF HEARING EAR FOR AN INSURED WHO IS COVERED UNDER THE GROUP
29 DISABILITY POLICY.

30 B. A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13 OR
31 17 OR AN AUDIOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17,
32 ARTICLE 4 SHALL DOCUMENT THE HEARING LOSS FOR WHICH HEARING AID COVERAGE
33 APPLIES IN EACH DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING EAR.

34 C. AN INSURED MAY CHOOSE A HIGHER PRICED HEARING AID AND MAY PAY
35 THE DIFFERENCE IN COST ABOVE THE MINIMUM COVERAGE AMOUNT WITHOUT ANY
36 FINANCIAL OR CONTRACTUAL PENALTY TO THE INSURED OR TO THE HEARING AID
37 PROVIDER.

38 20-1404.06. Blanket disability policies; hearing aids

39 A. A BLANKET DISABILITY POLICY SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE
40 WITH SECTION 20-110 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HEARING AID FOR EACH DEAF OR
41 HARD OF HEARING EAR FOR AN INSURED WHO IS COVERED UNDER THE BLANKET
42 DISABILITY POLICY.

1 B. A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13 OR
2 17 OR AN AUDIOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17,
3 ARTICLE 4 SHALL DOCUMENT THE HEARING LOSS FOR WHICH HEARING AID COVERAGE
4 APPLIES IN EACH DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING EAR.

5 C. AN INSURED MAY CHOOSE A HIGHER PRICED HEARING AID AND MAY PAY
6 THE DIFFERENCE IN COST ABOVE THE MINIMUM COVERAGE AMOUNT WITHOUT ANY
7 FINANCIAL OR CONTRACTUAL PENALTY TO THE INSURED OR TO THE HEARING AID
8 PROVIDER.

9 Sec. 6. Title 20, chapter 13, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
10 is amended by adding section 20-2333, to read:

11 20-2333. Health benefits plans; hearing aids

12 A. A HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
13 SECTION 20-110 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HEARING AID FOR EACH DEAF OR HARD OF
14 HEARING EAR FOR AN ENROLLEE WHO IS COVERED UNDER THE HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN.

15 B. A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13 OR
16 17 OR AN AUDIOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 36, CHAPTER 17,
17 ARTICLE 4 SHALL DOCUMENT THE HEARING LOSS FOR WHICH HEARING AID COVERAGE
18 APPLIES IN EACH DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING EAR.

19 C. AN ENROLLEE MAY CHOOSE A HIGHER PRICED HEARING AID AND MAY PAY
20 THE DIFFERENCE IN COST ABOVE THE MINIMUM COVERAGE AMOUNT WITHOUT ANY
21 FINANCIAL OR CONTRACTUAL PENALTY TO THE ENROLLEE OR TO THE HEARING AID
22 PROVIDER.