

House Bill 951

By: Representatives Channell of the 111th, Parrish of the 144th, Walker of the 141st, Childers of the 13th and Orrock of the 56th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions regarding insurance generally, so as to require health benefit
3 policy coverage for colorectal cancer screening; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Article 1 of Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 general provisions regarding insurance generally, is amended by adding after Code Section
9 33-24-56.1 a new Code section to read as follows:

10 "33-24-56.2.

11 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

12 (1) 'Health benefit policy' means any individual or group plan, policy, or contract for
13 health care services issued, delivered, issued for delivery, executed, or renewed in this
14 state, on or after July 1, 2002, including but not limited to those contracts executed by the
15 State of Georgia on behalf of state employees under Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45,
16 by an insurer.

17 (2) 'Insurer' means any person, corporation, or other entity authorized to provide health
18 benefit policies under this title.

19 (b) Every health benefit policy shall provide coverage for colorectal cancer screening as
20 follows:

21 (1) Annual fecal occult blood tests with three specimens and flexible sigmoidoscopy
22 screening every five years for any person who is:

23 (A) At least 50 years of age; or

24 (B) At least 40 years of age and who has or had a first degree relative having colorectal
25 cancer with onset after 60 years of age; or

- 1 (2) Colonoscopy for any person who is less than 65 years, not covered by medicare, and
2 has or had:
- 3 (A) A first degree relative with onset of colorectal cancer or adenomatous polyps
4 before 60 years of age; or
- 5 (B) Two or more first degree relatives with onset of colorectal cancer or adenomatous
6 polyps at any age,
7 which colonoscopy shall be covered beginning at the earlier of age 40, or ten years before
8 the age at which the youngest first degree relative met the criteria in subparagraph (A)
9 or (B) of this paragraph, and which colonoscopy shall be covered when repeated every
10 two years.
- 11 (c) The benefits provided in this Code section shall be subject to the same annual
12 deductibles or coinsurance established for all other covered benefits within a given health
13 benefit policy."

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SECTION 2.

15 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.