

Senate Bill 503

By: Senators Harbin of the 16th, Walker III of the 20th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Robertson of the 29th, Still of the 48th and others

**AS PASSED**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 insurance generally, so as to require health benefit plans, policies, or contracts executed by  
3 the state to cover medically necessary orthotic devices and prosthetic devices and their  
4 materials and components; to revise a definition; to provide for related matters; to provide  
5 for contingent effectiveness upon appropriation of funds; to repeal conflicting laws; and for  
6 other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance  
10 generally, is amended in Code Section 33-24-59.35, relating to required coverage orthotic  
11 devices and prosthetic devices, reporting, and regulation, by revising paragraph (3) of  
12 subsection (a) as follows:

13 "(3) 'Health benefit policy' means any individual or group plan, policy, or contract for  
14 healthcare services issued, delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in this state by an  
15 insurer that provides major medical benefits. On or after January 1, 2027, such ~~Such~~ term  
16 shall ~~not~~ include any plans, policies, or contracts executed by the state to provide  
17 healthcare coverage on behalf of state employees, public school teachers and employees,

18 ~~and members and employees of the Board of Regents and their retirees and dependents~~  
19 ~~under Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45, and shall not apply to the provision of~~  
20 ~~healthcare services pursuant to a contract entered into by an insurer and the Department~~  
21 ~~of Community Health for recipients of Medicaid.~~ Such term shall not include  
22 self-funded, employer sponsored health insurance plans subject to the exclusive  
23 jurisdiction of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as codified  
24 and amended at 29 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq."

25 **SECTION 2.**

- 26 (a) This Act shall become effective only if funds are specifically appropriated for purposes  
27 of this Act in an appropriations Act enacted by the General Assembly.
- 28 (b) If funds are so appropriated, then this Act shall become effective on the later of:
- 29 (1) The date on which such appropriations Act becomes effective; or  
30 (2) The beginning date of the fiscal year for which such appropriations are made.

31 **SECTION 3.**

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