



# HOUSE BILL 480: NC Cancer Treatment Fairness.

2019-2020 General Assembly

---

<b>Committee:</b>	House Health. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 8, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Zachary, Lewis, Lambeth	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jason Moran-Bates
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Committee Staff

---

**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 480 would require insurers to cover orally-administered chemotherapy drugs on the same terms as intravenous or injected chemotherapy drugs.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Under current law, insurers are not required to provide coverage for oral chemotherapy drugs on the same terms as coverage for intravenous chemotherapy drugs.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would require insurers who offer coverage for oral chemotherapy and intravenous or injected chemotherapy drugs to provide coverage for oral chemotherapy drugs on terms no less favorable than those for intravenous or injected chemotherapy drugs. Insurers would be prohibited from subjecting oral chemotherapy drugs to any pre-authorization, coverage limit, co-payment, coinsurance, or deductible that did not apply to intravenous or injected chemotherapy drugs.

The bill would also prohibit insurers from complying with the new rules by reclassifying anticancer drugs or increasing a patient's cost-sharing on any anticancer drugs. Any policy change that would result in an increase in a patient's out-of-pocket expense for anticancer drugs would also have to be applied to the majority of the other pharmaceutical or medical benefits provided by the policy.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would be effective January 1, 2020, and apply to insurance contracts or policies issued, renewed, or amended on or after that date.

**BACKGROUND:** As of 2018, 43 states have some version of coverage parity for oral chemotherapy drugs.

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578