

SCS HCS HB 1827 -- MISSOURI ELECTRONIC PRIOR AUTHORIZATION  
COMMITTEE

This bill establishes the Missouri Electronic Prior Authorization Committee to facilitate, monitor, and report on Missouri-based efforts to contribute to the establishment of national electronic prior authorization standards that generally relate to the process of obtaining prior approval from an insurer for certain services or medications. The efforts must include the establishment of a pilot program and the study and dissemination of information from the National Council on Prescription Drug Programs. The committee must advise the General Assembly and the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration if there is a need for administrative rules to be promulgated by the department as soon as practically possible.

The 19-member committee is to include members of the General Assembly, executive branch directors, representatives from the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries, and a patient advocate. The staff of the department must provide assistance to the committee. The duties of the committee, specified in the bill, include the preparation of an annual report to the General Assembly and Governor on the committee's progress and plans for the next year until national standards are established or the provisions of the bill expire, whichever is sooner. The first report must be completed before January 1, 2013. Upon the adoption of national standards, the committee must prepare a final report to the General Assembly and the Governor that identifies the appropriate Missouri administrative regulations, if any, that will need to be promulgated in order to make those standards effective as soon as practically possible and whether there are any necessary legislative actions.

The department and the committee must recruit a Missouri-based pharmacy benefits manager doing business nationally to volunteer to conduct an electronic prior authorization pilot program in Missouri that must be operational by January 1, 2014. The manager conducting the pilot program must ensure that there is an adequate number of Missouri licensed physicians and an electronic prior authorization vendor capable and willing to participate in a Missouri-based pilot program. The department and the committee may provide advice or assistance to the manager conducting the pilot program but cannot maintain control or lead with the direction of the pilot program.

The provisions of the bill expire six years after the effective date.