

HOUSE BILL 186

By Whitson

**AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8;
Title 56; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to health
insurance.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-7-1008, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(d) The commissioner shall make available the prescribed forms described in this section to healthcare providers on the department's website.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

House Finance, Ways, and Means Subcommittee Am. #1

Amendment No. _____

Signature of Sponsor

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 694

House Bill No. 186*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Bureau" means the bureau of TennCare;

(2) "Healthcare provider" means a healthcare professional who is licensed, registered, certified, or permitted pursuant to title 63 and regulated under the authority of either the department of health or an agency, board, council, or committee attached to the department of health; and

(3) "Vagus nerve stimulation therapy device" or "VNS therapy device" means a medical device that is:

(A) Implanted in the left chest area with a lead wire that is surgically secured to the left vagus nerve and that sends mild electrical pulses through the vagus nerve that innervate to areas in the brain in an effort to control seizures; and

(B) Approved by the United States food and drug administration.

(b) The bureau shall develop and implement a pilot program during fiscal years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 to provide supplemental payment to a hospital or ambulatory surgical treatment center that, at the direction of a healthcare provider, purchases a VNS therapy device and implants the device into a qualified patient.



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