

Jake Fitisemanu proposes the following substitute bill:

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**Medicare Supplement Insurance Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Jake Fitisemanu**

Senate Sponsor: Luz Escamilla

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3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill amends provisions regarding Medicare supplement insurance coverage.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 ▶ defines terms;

9 ▶ allows enrollees of Medicare supplement insurance plans to select comparable or lower  
10 tier plans; and

11 ▶ does not allow an issuer to deny coverage based on medical underwriting when selecting  
12 a comparable or lower tier plan.

13 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

14 None

15 **Other Special Clauses:**

16 None

17 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

18 AMENDS:

19 **31A-22-620**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 120

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21 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

22 Section 1. Section **31A-22-620** is amended to read:

23 **31A-22-620 . Medicare Supplement Insurance Minimum Standards Act.**

24 (1) As used in this section:

25 (a) "Applicant" means:

26 (i) in the case of an individual Medicare supplement insurance policy, the person who  
27 seeks to contract for insurance benefits; and

28 (ii) in the case of a group Medicare supplement insurance policy, the proposed  
29 certificate holder.

30 (b) "Certificate" means any certificate delivered or issued for delivery in this state under  
31 a group Medicare supplement insurance policy.

32 (c) "Certificate form" means the form on which the certificate is delivered or issued for  
33 delivery by the issuer.

34 (d) "Enrollee" means an individual enrolled in Medicare supplement insurance.

35 [~~(d)~~] (e) "Issuer" includes insurance companies, fraternal benefit societies, health care  
36 service plans, health maintenance organizations, and any other entity delivering, or  
37 issuing for delivery in this state, Medicare supplement insurance policies or  
38 certificates.

39 [~~(e)~~] (f) "Policy form" means the form on which the policy is delivered or issued for  
40 delivery by the issuer.

41 (2)(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided, this section applies to:

42 (i) all Medicare supplement insurance policies delivered or issued for delivery in this  
43 state on or after the effective date of this section;

44 (ii) all certificates issued under group Medicare supplement insurance policies, that  
45 have been delivered or issued for delivery in this state on or after the effective  
46 date of this section; and

47 (iii) policies or certificates that were in force prior to the effective date of this section,  
48 with respect to requirements for benefits, claims payment, and policy reporting  
49 practice under Subsection (3)(d), and loss ratios under Subsection (4).

50 (b) This section does not apply to a policy of one or more employers or labor  
51 organizations, or of the trustees of a fund established by one or more employers or  
52 labor organizations, or a combination of employers and labor unions, for employees  
53 or former employees or a combination of employees and former employees, or for  
54 members or former members of the labor organizations, or a combination of  
55 members and former members of labor organizations.

56 (c) This section does not prohibit, nor does it apply to insurance policies or health care  
57 benefit plans, including group conversion policies, provided to Medicare eligible  
58 persons that are not marketed or held out to be Medicare supplement insurance  
59 policies or benefit plans.

60 (3)(a) A Medicare supplement insurance policy or certificate in force in the state may  
61 not contain benefits that duplicate benefits provided by Medicare.

62 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law of this state, a Medicare supplement  
63 policy or certificate may not exclude or limit benefits for loss incurred more than six

64 months from the effective date of coverage because it involved a preexisting  
65 condition. The policy or certificate may not define a preexisting condition more  
66 restrictively than: "A condition for which medical advice was given or treatment was  
67 recommended by or received from a physician within six months before the effective  
68 date of coverage."

69 (c) The commissioner shall adopt rules to establish specific standards for policy  
70 provisions of Medicare supplement insurance policies and certificates. The standards  
71 adopted shall be in addition to and in accordance with applicable laws of this state. A  
72 requirement of this title relating to minimum required policy benefits, other than the  
73 minimum standards contained in this section, may not apply to Medicare supplement  
74 insurance policies and certificates. The standards may include:

- 75 (i) terms of renewability;
- 76 (ii) initial and subsequent conditions of eligibility;
- 77 (iii) nonduplication of coverage;
- 78 (iv) probationary periods;
- 79 (v) benefit limitations, exceptions, and reductions;
- 80 (vi) elimination periods;
- 81 (vii) requirements for replacement;
- 82 (viii) recurrent conditions; and
- 83 (ix) definitions of terms.

84 (d) The commissioner shall adopt rules establishing minimum standards for benefits,  
85 claims payment, marketing practices, compensation arrangements, and reporting  
86 practices for Medicare supplement insurance policies and certificates.

87 (e) The commissioner may adopt rules to conform Medicare supplement insurance  
88 policies and certificates to the requirements of federal law and regulations, including:

- 89 (i) requiring refunds or credits if the policies do not meet loss ratio requirements;
- 90 (ii) establishing a uniform methodology for calculating and reporting loss ratios;
- 91 (iii) assuring public access to policies, premiums, and loss ratio information of  
92 issuers of Medicare supplement insurance;
- 93 (iv) establishing a process for approving or disapproving policy forms and certificate  
94 forms and proposed premium increases;
- 95 (v) establishing a policy for holding public hearings prior to approval of premium  
96 increases;
- 97 (vi) establishing standards for Medicare select policies and certificates; and

98 (vii) nondiscrimination for genetic testing or genetic information.

99 (f) The commissioner may adopt rules that prohibit policy provisions not otherwise  
100 specifically authorized by statute that, in the opinion of the commissioner, are unjust,  
101 unfair, or unfairly discriminatory to any person insured or proposed to be insured  
102 under a Medicare supplement insurance policy or certificate.

103 (g)(i) Each year, beginning on an enrollee's birthday and ending 60 days later, an  
104 issuer shall allow an enrollee that is enrolled in one of the issuer's Medicare  
105 supplement insurance plans to choose a different Medicare supplement insurance  
106 plan that is:

107 (A) offered by the issuer; and

108 (B) considered a comparable or lower tier plan than the enrollee's current plan.

109 (ii) An issuer may not deny enrollment based on medical underwriting when an  
110 enrollee selects a plan in accordance with Subsection (3)(g)(i).

111 (4) Medicare supplement insurance policies shall return to policyholders benefits that are  
112 reasonable in relation to the premium charged. The commissioner shall make rules to  
113 establish minimum standards for loss ratios of Medicare supplement insurance policies  
114 on the basis of incurred claims experience, or incurred health care expenses where  
115 coverage is provided by a health maintenance organization on a service basis rather than  
116 on a reimbursement basis, and earned premiums in accordance with accepted actuarial  
117 principles and practices.

118 (5)(a) To provide for full and fair disclosure in the sale of Medicare supplement  
119 insurance, a Medicare supplement insurance policy or certificate may not be  
120 delivered in this state unless an outline of coverage is delivered to the applicant at the  
121 time application is made.

122 (b) The commissioner shall prescribe the format and content of the outline of coverage  
123 required by Subsection (5)(a).

124 (c) For purposes of this section, "format" means style arrangements and overall  
125 appearance, including such items as the size, color, and prominence of type and  
126 arrangement of text and captions. The outline of coverage shall include:

127 (i) a description of the principal benefits and coverage provided in the policy;

128 (ii) a statement of the renewal provisions, including any reservation by the issuer of a  
129 right to change premiums; and disclosure of the existence of any automatic  
130 renewal premium increases based on the policyholder's age; and

131 (iii) a statement that the outline of coverage is a summary of the policy issued or

- 132 applied for and that the policy should be consulted to determine governing  
133 contractual provisions.
- 134 (d) The commissioner may make rules for captions or notice if the commissioner finds  
135 that the rules are:
- 136 (i) in the public interest; and  
137 (ii) designed to inform prospective insureds that particular insurance coverages are  
138 not Medicare supplement coverages, for all accident and health insurance policies  
139 sold to persons eligible for Medicare, other than:
- 140 (A) a Medicare supplement insurance policy; or  
141 (B) a disability income policy.
- 142 (e) The commissioner may prescribe by rule a standard form and the contents of an  
143 informational brochure for persons eligible for Medicare, that is intended to improve  
144 the buyer's ability to select the most appropriate coverage and improve the buyer's  
145 understanding of Medicare. Except in the case of direct response insurance policies,  
146 the commissioner may require by rule that the informational brochure be provided  
147 concurrently with delivery of the outline of coverage to any prospective insureds  
148 eligible for Medicare. With respect to direct response insurance policies, the  
149 commissioner may require by rule that the prescribed brochure be provided upon  
150 request to any prospective insureds eligible for Medicare, but in no event later than  
151 the time of policy delivery.
- 152 (f) The commissioner may adopt reasonable rules to govern the full and fair disclosure  
153 of the information in connection with the replacement of accident and health policies,  
154 subscriber contracts, or certificates by persons eligible for Medicare.
- 155 (6) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), Medicare supplement insurance policies and  
156 certificates shall have a notice prominently printed on the first page of the policy or  
157 certificate, or attached to the front page, stating in substance that the applicant has the  
158 right to return the policy or certificate within 30 days of its delivery and to have the  
159 premium refunded if, after examination of the policy or certificate, the applicant is not  
160 satisfied for any reason. Any refund made pursuant to this section shall be paid directly  
161 to the applicant by the issuer in a timely manner.
- 162 (7) Every issuer of Medicare supplement insurance policies or certificates in this state shall  
163 provide a copy of any Medicare supplement insurance advertisement intended for use in  
164 this state, whether through written or broadcast medium, to the commissioner for review.
- 165 (8) The commissioner may adopt rules:

166 (a) [-]to conform Medicare and Medicare supplement insurance policies and certificates  
167 to the marketing requirements of federal law and regulation[-] ; or

168 (b) to implement Medicare supplement insurance open enrollment as described in  
169 Subsection (3)(g).

170 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

171 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.