

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 684  
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H684-PCS40457-TG-19

Short Title: Prescription Eye Drop Early Refill Coverage.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 19, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS THAT PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR  
3 PRESCRIPTION EYE DROPS TO ALSO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR EARLY  
4 REFILLS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. Article 3 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by adding  
7 a new section to read:

8 "**§ 58-3-295. Coverage for early refills of prescription eye drops.**

9 Every health benefit plan offered by an insurer in this State that provides coverage for  
10 prescription eye drops shall not deny coverage for a refill of an eye drop prescription if both of  
11 the following conditions apply:

12 (1) For a 30-day supply, the patient requested the refill after either of the  
13 following:

14 a. The passage of an amount of time after which a patient should have  
15 used seventy percent (70%) of the dosage units of the drug according  
16 to a health care provider's instructions.

17 b. Twenty-one days after either (i) the original date the prescription was  
18 distributed to the insured or (ii) the date the most recent refill was  
19 distributed to the insured.

20 (2) The refill requested by the insured would not exceed the limit, if any, on the  
21 number of refills for that prescription that the prescribing health care provider  
22 indicated on the original prescription."

23 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective October 1, 2023, and applies to contracts  
24 issued, renewed, or amended on or after that date.



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