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**HOUSE BILL NO. 516**

Offered January 14, 2026

Prefiled January 13, 2026

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 38.2-3407.9:06, relating to health insurance; coverage for non-opioid prescription drugs.*

Patron—Martinez

Committee Referral Pending

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 38.2-3407.9:06 as follows:**

**§ 38.2-3407.9:06. Coverage for non-opioid prescription drugs.**

*Notwithstanding the provisions of § 38.2-3419 or subdivision A 1 of § 38.2-6506, no (i) insurer proposing to issue individual or group accident and sickness insurance policies providing hospital, medical, and surgical or major medical coverage on an expense-incurred basis; (ii) corporation providing individual or group accident and sickness subscription contracts; or (iii) health maintenance organization providing a health care plan for health care services whose policy, contract, or plan, including any certificate or evidence of coverage issued in connection with such policy, contract, or plan, includes coverage for prescription drugs shall impose any cost-sharing, prior authorization, step therapy, or other limitation on coverage of a covered non-opioid drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment or management of pain that is more restrictive or less favorable to the enrollee relative to a covered opioid drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment or management of pain.*

**2. That the provisions of this act shall apply to insurance policies, contracts, and plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on and after January 1, 2027.**

INTRODUCED

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