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 Politics

Doyle signs law on insurance for mental health, substance abuse treatment

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Health insurers will have to cover mental health, alcoholism and other drug abuse treatment services at the same level as other types of medical treatment, under [a bill](#) Gov. Jim Doyle signed Thursday.

The law also requires that insurers count costs paid by consumers for their mental health treatment toward their overall deductible and out-of-pocket limits.

The law taking effect Dec. 1 applies to state-regulated plans and state and local government plans but does not apply to the sort of self-insured plans typically used by large private employers. Health plans for businesses with fewer than ten employees would also be exempted.

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