
DIGEST

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Hoffmann

HB No. 1247

Abstract: Prohibits all health insurance issuers from including abortion in any health care coverage available in the state.

Proposed law provides for legislative intent.

Proposed law provides definitions of "elective abortion," "health insurance issuer" and "health insurance coverage."

Proposed law provides that an abortion necessary to preserve the life of the mother shall not be deemed an "elective abortion."

Proposed law prohibits coverage of elective abortions by any health insurance issuer which provides plans or policies issued in the state.

Proposed law applies to any entity that offers health insurance coverage subject to state law that regulates the business of insurance; to the Office of Group Benefits; and to any entity created pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (federal health care reform act) of 2010.

Proposed law requires that on or after the effective date of this Act, any new policy, contract, program, or plan issued shall not include benefits payable for elective abortions, with the prohibition on elective abortion effective on or before the renewal date of the coverage.

Proposed law requires that in a case when a physician performs an abortion to preserve the life of the mother (a non-elective abortion), the physician must certify in writing:

- (1) The specific medical indications leading to the conclusion that the abortion was necessary to preserve the life of the mother; and
- (2) In the case that the unborn child is viable, that all reasonable steps, in accordance with good medical practice, were taken to preserve the life of the unborn child.

Proposed law shall not be construed to recognize any independent right to abortion under the constitution or laws of this state.

Proposed law shall not be construed to recognize the constitutional validity of the Patient

Protection and Affordable Care Act (federal health care reform act) of 2010.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 22:1016)