

2016 -- S 2098

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LC003863
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE - COMPLIANCE OF HEALTH BENEFIT CONTRACTS AND
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH FEDERAL LAW

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, McCaffrey, and Walaska

Date Introduced: January 21, 2016

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 Section 1. Chapter 27-18.1 of the General Laws entitled "Compliance of Health Benefit
2 Contracts and Medical Assistance Program with Federal Law" is hereby amended by adding
3 thereto the following section:

4 **27-18.1-7. Alternative plans to be offered.** -- (a) For every qualified program and health
5 insurance plan or policy offered through the Rhode Island health benefits exchange, the exchange
6 shall ensure that individuals and small business employers purchasing coverage through the
7 health benefit exchange shall have the choice of purchasing and participating in at least one
8 health plan at each actuarial value tier that excludes coverage for induced abortions, except in
9 cases where:

10 (1) The life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term; or

11 (2) The pregnancy resulted from rape, sexual assault, or incest.

12 (b) This section shall be applicable for qualified programs and health insurance plans
13 and/or policies issued on or after January 1, 2017, and for policy years beginning on or after
14 January 1, 2017.

15 (c) For purposes of this section:

16 (1) The term "abortion" shall have the same meaning as set forth in chapter 4.7 of title 23
17 ("Informed Consent for Abortion"); and

18 (2) The term "exchange" means the Rhode Island health benefits exchange, a division of

1 [the executive department established by executive order 11-09, dated September 11, 2011.](#)

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE - COMPLIANCE OF HEALTH BENEFIT CONTRACTS AND
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH FEDERAL LAW

1 This act would provide that persons and small businesses purchasing coverage through
2 the health benefits exchange would have the option of purchasing at least one plan that excludes
3 coverage for induced abortions.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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