

2010 -- S 2544

LC00211

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE - HEALTH INSURANCE

Introduced By: Senator Leo R. Blais

Date Introduced: February 11, 2010

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 27 of the General Laws entitled "INSURANCE" is hereby amended
2 by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 73

4 RHODE ISLAND HEALTH CARE FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT

5 **27-73-1. Rhode Island health care freedom of choice act. --** No law shall restrict a
6 person's natural right and power of contract to secure the blessings of liberty to choose private
7 health care systems or private plans. No law shall interfere with the right of a person or entity to
8 pay for lawful medical services to preserve life or health, nor shall any law impose a penalty, tax,
9 fee, or fine, of any type, to decline or to contract for health care coverage or to participate in any
10 particular health care system or plan, except as required by a court where an individual or entity is
11 a named party in a judicial dispute. Nothing herein shall be construed to expand, limit or
12 otherwise modify any determination of law regarding what constitutes lawful medical services
13 within the state. The applicable scope of the provisions of this chapter shall include, but not be
14 limited to, the following: accident and sickness insurance policies (chapter 27-18); nonprofit
15 hospital service corporations (chapter 27-19); nonprofit medical service corporations (chapter 27-
16 20); and health maintenance organizations (chapter 27-41).

1 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 - HEALTH INSURANCE

- 1 This act would provide that no law would restrict a person's ability to contract with, pay
- 2 for, and/or otherwise select a private health care system or private plan of that person's choosing.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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