

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 350

To restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 6, 2019

Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Competitive Health
5 Insurance Reform Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. RESTORING THE APPLICATION OF ANTITRUST**
7 **LAWS TO THE BUSINESS OF HEALTH INSUR-**
8 **ANCE.**

9 (a) AMENDMENT TO MCCARRAN-FERGUSON ACT.—
10 Section 3 of the Act of March 9, 1945 (15 U.S.C. 1013),

1 commonly known as the McCarran-Ferguson Act, is
2 amended by adding at the end the following:

3 “(c)(1) Nothing contained in this Act shall modify,
4 impair, or supersede the operation of any of the antitrust
5 laws with respect to the business of health insurance (in-
6 cluding the business of dental insurance and limited-scope
7 dental benefits).

8 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to
9 making a contract, or engaging in a combination or con-
10 spiracy—

11 “(A) to collect, compile, or disseminate histor-
12 ical loss data;

13 “(B) to determine a loss development factor ap-
14 plicable to historical loss data;

15 “(C) to perform actuarial services if such con-
16 tract, combination, or conspiracy does not involve a
17 restraint of trade; or

18 “(D) to develop or disseminate a standard in-
19 surance policy form (including a standard addendum
20 to an insurance policy form and standard termi-
21 nology in an insurance policy form) if such contract,
22 combination, or conspiracy is not to adhere to such
23 standard form or require adherence to such standard
24 form.

25 “(3) For purposes of this subsection—

1 “(A) the term ‘antitrust laws’ has the meaning
2 given it in subsection (a) of the first section of the
3 Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12), except that such term
4 includes section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission
5 Act (15 U.S.C. 45) to the extent that such section
6 5 applies to unfair methods of competition;

7 “(B) the term ‘business of health insurance (in-
8 cluding the business of dental insurance and limited-
9 scope dental benefits)’ does not include—

10 “(i) the business of life insurance (includ-
11 ing annuities); or

12 “(ii) the business of property or casualty
13 insurance, including but not limited to—

14 “(I) any insurance or benefits defined
15 as ‘excepted benefits’ under paragraph (1),
16 subparagraph (B) or (C) of paragraph (2),
17 or paragraph (3) of section 9832(c) of the
18 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.
19 9832(c)) whether offered separately or in
20 combination with insurance or benefits de-
21 scribed in paragraph (2)(A) of such sec-
22 tion; and

23 “(II) any other line of insurance that
24 is classified as property or casualty insur-
25 ance under State law;

1 “(C) the term ‘historical loss data’ means infor-
2 mation respecting claims paid, or reserves held for
3 claims reported, by any person engaged in the busi-
4 ness of insurance; and

5 “(D) the term ‘loss development factor’ means
6 an adjustment to be made to reserves held for losses
7 incurred for claims reported by any person engaged
8 in the business of insurance, for the purpose of
9 bringing such reserves to an ultimate paid basis.”.

10 (b) RELATED PROVISION.—For purposes of section
11 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45)
12 to the extent such section applies to unfair methods of
13 competition, section 3(c) of the McCarran-Ferguson Act
14 shall apply with respect to the business of health insurance
15 without regard to whether such business is carried on for
16 profit, notwithstanding the definition of “Corporation”
17 contained in section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission
18 Act.

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