

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 Judiciary

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

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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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