

ASSEMBLY, No. 546

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman ROBERT AUTH
District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

“Consumer Freedom From Unwanted Expense in Health Insurance Coverage Act.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the purchase of health insurance coverage and
2 supplementing Title 17B of the New Jersey Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Consumer
8 Freedom From Unwanted Expense in Health Insurance Coverage
9 Act.”

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11 2. As used in this act:

12 “Foreign health insurer” means an insurer licensed to sell
13 individual health benefits plans in any other state in the United
14 States.

15 “Individual health benefits plan” means a benefits plan for
16 persons and their dependents which pays or provides for hospital
17 and medical expense benefits for covered services.

18 “Resident” means a person whose primary residence is in New
19 Jersey and who is present in New Jersey for at least six months of
20 the calendar year.

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22 3. Notwithstanding any other law, rule, or regulation to the
23 contrary, a resident shall have the right to purchase a health
24 insurance policy legally sold by a foreign health insurer. An
25 employer shall have the right to reimburse its employees for the
26 costs of health insurance coverage purchased pursuant to this act.
27 The purchase of health insurance coverage pursuant to this act shall
28 satisfy any legal obligation for an individual to maintain health
29 insurance coverage imposed by any entity having the right to
30 require that coverage be maintained.

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32 4. This act shall take effect on the 90th day next following
33 enactment.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill, the “Consumer Freedom From Unwanted Expense in
39 Health Insurance Coverage Act,” provides a New Jersey resident
40 with the right to purchase a health insurance policy legally sold in
41 any other state in the United States. A foreign health insurer means
42 an insurer licensed to sell individual health benefits plans in any
43 other state.

44 The bill provides that, notwithstanding any other law, rule, or
45 regulation to the contrary, a resident shall have the right to purchase
46 a health insurance policy legally sold in any other state in the
47 United States. The bill further specifies that an employer shall have
48 the right to reimburse its employees for the costs of health

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1 insurance coverage purchased pursuant to the bill. The bill also
2 stipulates that the purchase of health insurance coverage pursuant to
3 the bill shall satisfy any legal obligation for an individual to
4 maintain health insurance coverage imposed by any entity having
5 the right to require that coverage be maintained.