



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

Legislative Document

No. 1665

H.P. 1215

House of Representatives, January 9, 1996

An Act to Amend the Maine Insurance Code with Respect to Domestic Violence.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Banking and Insurance suggested and ordered printed.

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GREEN of Monmouth. Cosponsored by Representative SAXL of Portland, Senator LONGLEY of Waldo and Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, AULT of Wayne, BERRY of Livermore, BRENNAN of Portland, BUNKER of Kossuth Township, CAMPBELL of Holden, CARLETON of Wells, CHASE of China, DAGGETT of Augusta, DAVIDSON of Brunswick, DEXTER of Kingfield, DRISCOLL of Calais, GATES of Rockport, GOULD of Greenville, GUERRETTE of Pittston, JACQUES of Waterville, JOHNSON of South Portland, JONES of Pittsfield, KILKELLY of Wiscasset, LaFOUNTAIN of Biddeford, LEMAIRE of Lewiston, LEMKE of Westbrook, MAYO of Bath, MITCHELL of Vassalboro, MITCHELL of Portland, MORRISON of Bangor, O'GARA of Westbrook, O'NEAL of Limestone, PAUL of Sanford, POULIOT of Lewiston, SAXL of Bangor, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, TREAT of Gardiner, TRIPP of Topsham, TUTTLE of Sanford, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senators: AMERO of Cumberland, LAWRENCE of York, LORD of York, McCORMICK of Kennebec, O'DEA of Penobscot, PINGREE of Knox, RAND of Cumberland.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 2 Sec. 1. 24 MRSA §2332-F is enacted to read: 4 §2332-F. Victims of domestic abuse 6 An individual or group hospital, medical or health care 8 service contract delivered or issued for delivery in the State may not cancel a contract or refuse to offer, renew or continue a 10 contract or limit the type or amount of benefits available to a subscriber or charge a different rate to a subscriber solely 12 because the subscriber had been a victim of domestic violence. 14 Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §2754 is enacted to read: 16 §2754. Victims of domestic violence 18 An insurer that delivers or issues for delivery an individual or family health insurance policy in this State may not cancel a policy or refuse to insure or to renew or continue 20 coverage or limit the type or amount of coverage available to an 22 individual or charge a different rate to an individual for the same coverage solely because the person had been a victim of 24 domestic_violence. 26 Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §2847-E is enacted to read: 28 §2847-E. Victims of domestic violence 30 An insurer that delivers or issues for delivery group or blanket health insurance policies in this State may not cancel a 32 policy or refuse to insure or to renew or continue coverage or limit the type or amount of coverage available to a person solely 34 because the person had been a victim of domestic violence. Sec. 4. 24-A MRSA §4240 is enacted to read: 36 38 §4240. Victims of domestic violence 40 A health maintenance organization subject to this chapter may not cancel a contract for health care services or refuse to 42 issue, renew or continue coverage or limit the type or amount of coverage available to a person or charge a different rate to a 44 person for the same coverage solely because the person had been a victim of domestic violence.

46

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill prohibits hospital medical organizations, issuers of individual or group health insurance and health maintenance organizations from canceling coverage for health care or refusing to issue, renew or continue coverage to a person solely because the person had been a victim of domestic violence.

2