

CHAPTER NO. 550

SENATE BILL NO. 3187

By Clabough, Kurita

Substituted for: House Bill No. 3234

By McKee

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, relative to insurance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section to be designated as follows:

56-7-125. (a) It is the intent of the general assembly that the availability and affordability of basic major medical insurance coverage for a catastrophic illness requiring in-patient hospital care is essential for many Tennesseans who are uninsured.

(b) To that extent, insurance providers in this state are encouraged to develop a plan which provides only major medical insurance coverage for a catastrophic illness requiring in-patient hospital care.

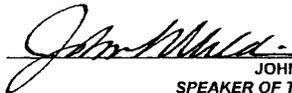
(c) The plans developed under this section are not required to provide the mandated coverage or the mandated offers of coverage required pursuant to Parts 23, 24, 25, or 26 of this chapter except to the extent that a specific mandated coverage is essential to the provision of basic health care for the catastrophic illness requiring in-patient hospital care.

(d) Prior to being offered for sale in this state, such plan shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Commerce and Insurance for approval, modification or disapproval. Upon receipt by the commissioner of approval for the plan, the carrier may use the certified plan until the plan is disapproved by the commissioner.

(e) The commissioner is authorized to promulgate necessary rules and regulations in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in Title 4, Chapter 5, to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 12, 2004


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 22nd day of April 2004


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR