

1595

Sponsor(s): Representatives Wolfe, Cody, Mason, Dunn, Kenney, Butler, Costa, Cooper, Blalock, Dickerson, Conway, Scott, Wood, O'Brien, Keiser, Romero, Regala, Constantine and Gardner

Brief Title: Insuring abuse victims.

HB 1595 - DIGEST

Requires that a person or entity engaged in the business of insurance or as a health carrier in this state shall not engage in any of the following acts or practices against a subject of abuse:

(1) Knowingly denying coverage on the basis of the applicant's, insured's, or enrolled participant's abuse status;

(2) excluding or limiting coverage for losses on the basis of the insured's abuse status;

(3) asking an insured or applicant for an insurance policy or health benefit plan about their abuse status; or

(4) disclosing or transferring any information by any person relating to an applicant or insured who is the subject of abuse.

Requires health carriers and insurers to develop, file with the commissioner, and require employees specifically involved with abuse cases to follow guidelines that encourage greater sensitivity and appropriate behavior when conducting any business in cases involving abuse.