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HOUSE BILL 289

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Peter Wirth

AN ACT

RELATING TO INSURANCE; REQUIRING INSURERS TO OFFER COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN PART-TIME EMPLOYEES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 22 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"~~[NEW MATERIAL]~~ COVERAGE OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES. -- An insurer that provides group health insurance pursuant to Chapter 59A, Article 22 NMSA 1978 shall make available, upon an employer's request prior to issuance, delivery or renewal, coverage for regular part-time employees who work or are expected to work an average of at least twenty hours per week over a six-month period. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require an employer to offer or provide coverage for regular part-time employees. "

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 Section 2. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 23 NMSA
2 1978 is enacted to read:

3 "[NEW MATERIAL] COVERAGE OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES. -- An
4 insurer that provides group health insurance pursuant to
5 Chapter 59A, Article 23 NMSA 1978 shall make available, upon an
6 employer's request prior to issuance, delivery or renewal,
7 coverage for regular part-time employees who work or are
8 expected to work an average of at least twenty hours per week
9 over a six-month period. Nothing in this section shall be
10 construed to require an employer to offer or provide coverage
11 for regular part-time employees. "

12 Section 3. A new section of the Health Maintenance
13 Organization Law is enacted to read:

14 "[NEW MATERIAL] COVERAGE OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES. -- A health
15 maintenance organization that provides coverage for health care
16 services pursuant to the Health Maintenance Organization Law
17 shall make available, upon an employer's request prior to
18 issuance, delivery or renewal, coverage for regular part-time
19 employees who work or are expected to work an average of at
20 least twenty hours per week over a six-month period. Nothing
21 in this section shall be construed to require an employer to
22 offer or provide coverage for regular part-time employees. "

23 Section 4. A new section of the Nonprofit Health Care
24 Plan Law is enacted to read:

25 "[NEW MATERIAL] COVERAGE OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES. -- A health

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[bracketed material] = delete

1 care plan that provides coverage for health care pursuant to
2 the Nonprofit Health Care Plan Law shall make available, upon
3 an employer's request prior to issuance, delivery or renewal,
4 coverage for regular part-time employees who work or are
5 expected to work an average of at least twenty hours per week
6 over a six-month period. Nothing in this section shall be
7 construed to require an employer to offer or provide coverage
8 for regular part-time employees. "

9 Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. --The effective date of the
10 provisions of this act is July 1, 2005.

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