

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 31

BY SENATORS KARNES AND RUCKER

[Introduced February 8, 2017; referred
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources; and
then to the Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §33-16G-10, relating to prohibiting abortion coverage in qualified health care
 3 plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2018; and providing an exception to the
 4 prohibition when a mother’s life is in danger.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
 2 section, designated §33-16G-10, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 16G. WEST VIRGINIA HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE ACT.

§33-16G-10. Opt-out of abortion coverage.

1 Abortion coverage in qualified health plans offered through the exchange, whether the
 2 exchange is run solely by the state, in partnership with the federal government or solely by the
 3 federal government, is prohibited in those plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2018:
 4 Provided, That the prohibition does not prohibit coverage of abortion if the mother’s life is in
 5 danger.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit abortion coverage in qualified health care plans on or after January 1, 2018, with the exception for coverage when a mother’s life is in danger.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.