To ensure affordable abortion coverage and care for every woman, and for other purposes.
A BILL

To ensure affordable abortion coverage and care for every woman, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance (EACH Woman) Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Affordable, comprehensive health insurance that includes coverage for a full range of pregnancy-related care, including abortion, is critical to the health of every woman.

(2) Neither a woman’s income level nor her type of insurance should prevent her from having access to a full range of pregnancy-related care, including abortion services.

(3) No woman should have the decision to have, or not to have, an abortion made for her based on her ability or inability to afford the procedure.

(4) Since 1976, the Federal Government has withheld funds for abortion coverage in most circumstances. As a 2013 analysis by the Guttmacher...
Institute shows, this affects women of reproductive age in the United States who are insured through the Medicaid program, as well as women who receive insurance or care through other Federal health plans and programs.

(5) Moreover, 25 States also prohibit abortion coverage in private insurance plans within or beyond health insurance marketplaces under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, according to an analysis of State policies by the Guttmacher Institute.

(6) A report by the Center for Reproductive Rights details how restrictions on abortion coverage interfere with a woman’s personal decisionmaking, with her health and well-being, and with her constitutionally protected right to a safe and legal medical procedure.

(7) Restrictions on abortion coverage have a disproportionate impact on low-income women, women of color, immigrant women, and young women, according to reports by both the Center for American Progress and the Guttmacher Institute. Also according to the reports, these women are already disadvantaged in their access to the resources, information, and services necessary to prevent an
unintended pregnancy or to carry a healthy preg-
nancy to term.

SEC. 3. ABORTION COVERAGE AND CARE REGARDLESS OF
INCOME OR SOURCE OF INSURANCE.

(a) Ensuring Abortion Coverage and Care
Through the Federal Government in Its Role as
An Insurer, Employer, or Health Care Pro-
vider.—The Federal Government shall—

(1) ensure coverage for abortion care in public
health insurance programs including Medicaid,
Medicare, and the Children’s Health Insurance Pro-
gram;

(2) in its role as an employer or health plan
sponsor, ensure coverage for abortion care for par-
ticipants and beneficiaries; and

(3) in its role as a provider of health services,
ensure abortion care is made available to individuals
who are eligible to receive services in its own facili-
ties or in facilities with which it contracts to provide
medical care.

(b) Prohibiting Restrictions on Private Insur-
ance Coverage of Abortion Care.—

(1) Federal restrictions.—The Federal
Government shall not prohibit, restrict, or otherwise
inhibit insurance coverage of abortion care by State
or local government or by private health plans.

(2) State and local government restrictions.—State and local governments shall not pro-
hibit, restrict, or otherwise inhibit insurance cov-
erage of abortion care by private health plans.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the Federal Government, acting in its ca-
pacity as an insurer, employer, or health care pro-
vider, should serve as a model for the Nation to en-
sure coverage of abortion care; and

(2) moreover, restrictions on coverage of abor-
tion care in the private insurance market must end.

SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to have any
effect on any Federal, State, or local law that includes
more protections for abortion coverage or care than those
set forth in this Act.

SEC. 6. SEVERABILITY.

If any portion of this Act or the application thereof
to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such inva-
lidity shall not affect the portions or applications of this
1 Act which can be given effect without the invalid portion
2 or application.