

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2236

To prohibit health insurance companies from denying individual health insurance coverage or from discriminating in benefits under such coverage because of the receipt of grief counseling.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 4, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit health insurance companies from denying individual health insurance coverage or from discriminating in benefits under such coverage because of the receipt of grief counseling.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Grieving Families In-
5 surance Protection Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING DENIAL OF HEALTH INSURANCE COV-**
 2 **ERAGE OR DISCRIMINATION IN BENEFITS**
 3 **UNDER THE COVERAGE BECAUSE OF RE-**
 4 **CEIPT OF GRIEF COUNSELING.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XXVII of the Public Health
 6 Service Act is amended by inserting after section 2745 the
 7 following new section:

8 **“SEC. 2746. PROHIBITION ON DENIAL OF HEALTH INSUR-**
 9 **ANCE COVERAGE AND DISCRIMINATION IN**
 10 **BENEFITS BECAUSE OF RECEIPT OF GRIEF**
 11 **COUNSELING.**

12 “A health insurance issuer offering health insurance
 13 coverage in the individual market may not—

14 “(1) establish or maintain rules for eligibility
 15 (including continued eligibility) of any individual to
 16 enroll under the terms of the coverage based on any
 17 individual’s receipt of grief counseling at any time;
 18 or

19 “(2) reduce the benefits covered (or offered for
 20 coverage) on such basis.”.

21 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 22 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to health insurance
 23 coverage offered, sold, issued, renewed, in effect, or oper-
 24 ated in the individual health insurance market on or after
 25 the date of the enactment of this Act.