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SENATE BILL 269

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

INTRODUCED BY

Dede Feldman

AN ACT

RELATING TO INSURANCE; ALLOWING INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE
OF UNMARRIED DEPENDENTS UNTIL THEIR TWENTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY.

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] MAXIMUM AGE OF DEPENDENT. -- An individual or group health policy or certificate of insurance delivered, issued for delivery or renewed in New Mexico that provides coverage for an insured's dependent shall not terminate coverage of an unmarried dependent by reason of the dependent's age before the dependent's twenty-fifth birthday, regardless of whether the dependent is enrolled in an educational institution."

Section 2. Section 59A-46-38.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws . 152841.2GR

2003, Chapter 391, Section 5) is amended to read:

"59A-46-38.3. MAXIMUM AGE OF DEPENDENT.--Each <u>individual</u> or group health maintenance organization contract delivered or issued for delivery <u>or renewed</u> in New Mexico [on or after July 1, 2003] that provides coverage for an enrollee's dependents shall not terminate coverage of an unmarried dependent by reason of the dependent's age before the dependent's twenty-fifth birthday, regardless of whether the dependent is enrolled in an educational institution; provided that this requirement does not apply to the medicaid managed care system."

Section 3. Section 59A-47-40 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 391, Section 7) is amended to read:

"59A-47-40. MAXIMUM AGE OF DEPENDENT. -- [Any] An individual or group health care coverage, including any form of self-insurance, offered, issued or renewed under the Health Care Purchasing Act [on or after July 1, 2003] that offers coverage of an insured's dependent shall not terminate coverage of an unmarried dependent by reason of the dependent's age before the dependent's twenty-fifth birthday, regardless of whether the dependent is enrolled in an educational institution."

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. -- The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2005.

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