

## Session 112 - (1997-1998)

### **S 0258 General Bill, By McConnell**

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 38-71-685 SO AS TO IMPLEMENT GUARANTEED AVAILABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WITH PRIOR GROUP COVERAGE AS MANDATED BY THE FEDERAL HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996 AND TO REQUIRE ISSUERS IN THE INDIVIDUAL MARKET TO OFFER AND ACCEPT ENROLLMENT OF ANY ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL WITHOUT THE IMPOSITION OF A PREEXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSION, TO DEFINE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL AS ONE WHO HAS AN AGGREGATE OF EIGHTEEN MONTHS OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE, WHOSE MOST RECENT COVERAGE WAS UNDER A GROUP HEALTH PLAN, WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE UNDER ANOTHER GROUP HEALTH PLAN, MEDICARE, OR MEDICAID, WHOSE MOST RECENT PRIOR COVERAGE WAS NOT TERMINATED DUE TO NONPAYMENT OF PREMIUMS OR FRAUD, AND WHO HAS EXHAUSTED COBRA, IF ELIGIBLE, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUER TO LIMIT THE GUARANTEED ISSUE SO LONG AS IT OFFERS AT LEAST TWO DIFFERENT POLICY FORMS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THESE FORMS.

**01/28/97 Senate Introduced and read first time SJ-3**

**01/28/97 Senate Referred to Committee on Banking and Insurance SJ-3**