

SENATE BILL NO. 181

INTRODUCED BY M. CAFERRO

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT EXEMPTING A HEALTH CARE SHARING MINISTRY FROM REGULATION AS AN INSURANCE COMPANY; AND AMENDING SECTION 33-1-102, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 33-1-102, MCA, is amended to read:

**"33-1-102. Compliance required -- exceptions -- health service corporations -- health maintenance organizations -- governmental insurance programs -- service contracts.** (1) A person may not transact a business of insurance in Montana or a business relative to a subject resident, located, or to be performed in Montana without complying with the applicable provisions of this code.

(2) The provisions of this code do not apply with respect to:

- (a) domestic farm mutual insurers as identified in chapter 4, except as stated in chapter 4;
- (b) domestic benevolent associations as identified in chapter 6, except as stated in chapter 6; ~~and~~
- (c) fraternal benefit societies, except as stated in chapter 7; and
- (d) health care sharing ministries as defined in 26 U.S.C. 5000A.

(3) This code applies to health service corporations as prescribed in 33-30-102. The existence of the corporations is governed by Title 35, chapter 2, and related sections of the Montana Code Annotated.

(4) This code does not apply to health maintenance organizations to the extent that the existence and operations of those organizations are governed by chapter 31.

(5) This code does not apply to workers' compensation insurance programs provided for in Title 39, chapter 71, parts 21 and 23, and related sections.

(6) The department of public health and human services may limit the amount, scope, and duration of services for programs established under Title 53 that are provided under contract by entities subject to this title. The department of public health and human services may establish more restrictive eligibility requirements and fewer services than may be required by this title.

(7) This code does not apply to the state employee group insurance program established in Title 2, chapter 18, part 8, or the Montana university system group benefits plans established in Title 20, chapter 25, part



1 13.

2 (8) This code does not apply to insurance funded through the state self-insurance reserve fund provided  
3 for in 2-9-202.

4 (9) (a) Except as otherwise provided in Title 33, chapter 22, this code does not apply to any arrangement,  
5 plan, or interlocal agreement between political subdivisions of this state in which the political subdivisions  
6 undertake to separately or jointly indemnify one another by way of a pooling, joint retention, deductible, or  
7 self-insurance plan.

8 (b) Except as otherwise provided in Title 33, chapter 22, this code does not apply to any arrangement,  
9 plan, or interlocal agreement between political subdivisions of this state or any arrangement, plan, or program  
10 of a single political subdivision of this state in which the political subdivision provides to its officers, elected  
11 officials, or employees disability insurance or life insurance through a self-funded program.

12 (10) (a) This code does not apply to the marketing of, sale of, offering for sale of, issuance of, making  
13 of, proposal to make, and administration of a service contract.

14 (b) A "service contract" means a contract or agreement for a separately stated consideration for a  
15 specific duration to perform the repair, replacement, or maintenance of property or to indemnify for the repair,  
16 replacement, or maintenance of property if an operational or structural failure is due to a defect in materials or  
17 manufacturing or to normal wear and tear, with or without an additional provision for incidental payment or  
18 indemnity under limited circumstances, including but not limited to towing, rental, and emergency road service.  
19 A service contract may provide for the repair, replacement, or maintenance of property for damage resulting from  
20 power surges or accidental damage from handling. A service contract does not include motor club service as  
21 defined in 61-12-301.

22 (11) (a) Subject to 33-18-201 and 33-18-242, this code does not apply to insurance for ambulance  
23 services sold by a county, city, or town or to insurance sold by a third party if the county, city, or town is liable for  
24 the financial risk under the contract with the third party as provided in 7-34-103.

25 (b) If the financial risk for ambulance service insurance is with an entity other than the county, city, or  
26 town, the entity is subject to the provisions of this code.

27 (12) This code does not apply to the self-insured student health plan established in Title 20, chapter 25,  
28 part 14.

29 (13) This code does not apply to private air ambulance services that are in compliance with 50-6-320 and  
30 that solicit membership subscriptions, accept membership applications, charge membership fees, and provide

1 air ambulance services to subscription members and designated members of their households."

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