

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 229

2 INTRODUCED BY J. GILLETTE

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROHIBITING QUALIFIED HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS
5 OFFERED THROUGH A HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE IN MONTANA FROM COVERING ABORTION
6 SERVICES."

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8 WHEREAS, under Public Law 111-148, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, federal tax
9 dollars are routed to exchange-participating health insurance plans through affordability credits provided to
10 individuals with incomes of up to 400% of the federal poverty level to assist the individuals with purchasing
11 health insurance coverage, including health insurance plans that provide coverage for abortions; and

12 WHEREAS, federal funding of insurance plans that provide coverage for abortions is an unprecedented
13 change in federal abortion funding policy that fails to take into account the Hyde Amendment that prohibits
14 federal funds from subsidizing health insurance plans that provide coverage of abortions; and

15 WHEREAS, the provision of federal funding for health insurance plans that provide abortion coverage
16 is nothing short of taxpayer-funded and government-endorsed abortion; and

17 WHEREAS, Public Law 111-148 allows a state to opt out of permitting health insurance plans that
18 cover abortions from participating in the health insurance exchanges within that state and thus prohibit taxpayer
19 money from subsidizing plans that cover abortions within that state; and

20 WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court has, in past decisions, concluded that the decision not to fund
21 abortion services places no governmental obstacle in the path of a woman who chooses to terminate her
22 pregnancy and that a state may engage in unequal subsidization of abortion and other medical services to
23 encourage alternative activity considered to be in the public interest; and

24 WHEREAS, a January 2010 Quinnipiac University poll showed that 7 in 10 Americans were opposed to
25 provisions in federal health care reform that use federal funds to pay for abortions and abortion coverage.

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

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