

House Bill 1232

By: Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 48th, Post 2, Mobley of the 58th, Lunsford of the 85th, Post 2, Brooks of the 47th, Stokes of the 72nd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 insurance generally, so as to prohibit accident and sickness insurers from limiting the
3 availability of such insurance based upon geographic location or ZIP code; to provide
4 definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 24 of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance
8 generally, is amended by adding a new Code Section 33-24-21.3 to read as follows:

9 "33-24-21.3.

10 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

11 (1) 'Health benefit policy' means any individual or group plan, policy, or contract for
12 health care services offered for issuance, delivery, or renewal in this state, including those
13 contracts executed by the State of Georgia on behalf of state employees under Article 1
14 of Chapter 18 of Title 45, by a health care corporation, health maintenance organization,
15 preferred provider organization, accident and sickness insurer, fraternal benefit society,
16 hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, or other insurer or similar
17 entity.

18 (2) 'Insurer' means an accident and sickness insurer, fraternal benefit society, hospital
19 service corporation, medical service corporation, health care corporation, health
20 maintenance organization, preferred provider organization, or any similar entity
21 authorized to issue contracts under this title.

22 (b) No insurer offering health benefit policies in this state shall limit the availability of
23 such policies based upon the geographic location or ZIP code of the insured in this state."

24 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.