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HOUSE BILL NO. 1147

Offered January 14, 2014

A BILL to allow insurance companies to continue to offer health insurance plans.

Patrons—Farrell, Peace, Albo, Bell, Richard P., Cole, Cox, Edmunds, Garrett, Gilbert, Head, Howell, W.J., Ingram, Jones, Landes, Lingamfelter, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Marshall, R.G., Minchew, O'Bannon, Robinson, Rush, Rust, Scott, Stolle, Webert, Wilt and Wright

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

Whereas, in promoting the passage in Congress of the health insurance legislation known as the "Affordable Care Act" (ACA), President Obama repeatedly promised the American people that "if you like your health insurance, you can keep it, period. No one can take it away from you"; and

Whereas, contrary to the President's promise, thousands of Virginians and millions of Americans have had their health insurance policies cancelled for noncompliance with the ACA; and

Whereas, in reaction to the outrage of the millions of Americans who have lost their health insurance coverage, President Obama has repeatedly refused to enforce provisions of his own law and urged state insurance regulators to ignore state laws such as Virginia's that were passed to comply with the federal health insurance law; and

Whereas, since President Obama has urged states to ignore certain provisions of both federal and state laws that have caused millions to lose their health insurance, and to fulfill President Obama's promise that Americans can keep their health insurance if they like it, it is appropriate to enact legislation allowing Virginians to keep health insurance policies that were in effect prior to the effective date of requirements of the ACA; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. *That notwithstanding any other provision of Virginia law, insurance companies shall be allowed to continue offer health insurance plans in all product markets that were in effect at any time during 2012 and 2013.*

INTRODUCED

HB1147