

S.37 (2023) As Introduced – One Page Overview

*An act relating to access to legally protected health care activity
and regulation of health care providers*

This bill proposes to:

1. Add definitions to statute for the terms “gender-affirming health care services”, “legally protected health care activity”*, and “reproductive health care services”
2. Prohibit a medical malpractice insurer from adjusting a health care provider’s risk classification or premium charges in certain circumstances;
3. Require that a health insurance plan covers gender-affirming health care services and abortion-related services;
4. Prohibit a health care provider from being subject to professional disciplinary action for providing or assisting in the provision of legally protected health care activity;
5. Establish a new “unfair and deceptive act” regarding pregnancy centers;
6. Require the Department of Health to submit a report regarding access to abortion, birth care, and gender-affirming health care services;
7. Require the Board of Medical Practice, in consultation with the Office of Professional Regulation, to submit a report regarding the State’s participation in interstate compacts and the provisions of the act;
8. Establish a new subchapter in Title 26 regarding the dispensing of emergency contraception;
9. Require Vermont’s public institutions of higher education to adopt gender-affirming health care and medication abortion readiness plans for their students; and
10. Limit the circumstances under which covered entities may disclose information regarding legally protected health care activity.

* As used in this bill, “legally protected health care” includes reproductive health care services and gender-affirming health care services.