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Senator Scott T. Rupp to File Bill Banning Insurance Coverage for Abortion in Proposed Health Exchanges

JEFFERSON CITY — Missouri Sen. Scott T. Rupp (R-Wentzville) plans to file a bill expanding Missouri's health insurance coverage ban on elective abortions that would prohibit any plans and policies offered through a health insurance exchange in Missouri from covering abortion.

"The bottom line is, if any health care plan comes down from the federal government, the state of Missouri will not make our citizens subsidize abortions in policies offered through the health insurance exchanges currently being discussed in the pending federal health care bills," said Sen. Rupp. "I've already co-signed on to a bill that will allow Missourians to reject whatever health care Washington mandates. My legislation will continue to protect our unborn children."

Under current Missouri law, health insurance policies are barred from providing coverage for elective abortions except through separate optional riders (additional provisions to the insurance policy) that require an additional premium. Senator Rupp's proposed legislation will serve to eliminate concerns of public funds being used to purchase coverage for abortions through any plan or policy sold within any exchange in Missouri.

"This bill is a proactive approach to combat any attempt to use Missouri taxpayer dollars for abortions," said Sen. Rupp. "When you combine it with my efforts to reject the federal health care plan, I think we can protect every Missourian, born and unborn, from a federal government that is overstepping its bounds."

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