To limit the sale of short-term, limited-duration health insurance and ensure multiple employer welfare arrangements are covered by small employer market rules.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Health Insurance Marketplace Improvement Act of 2018”.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

For the purposes of this act, the term:

“Short-term limited duration health insurance” means health insurance that provides medical, hospital, or major medical expense benefits coverage pursuant to a policy or contract with an insurer and that has an expiration date specified in the policy or contract with an insurer and that has an expiration date specified in the policy or contract that is less than three months after the original effective date of the policy or contract.

Sec. 3. Short-term Limited Duration Health Insurance.

(a) An insurer shall not provide short-term, limited-duration health insurance coverage unless the insurer has a certificate of authority from the Commissioner to offer health insurance.

(b) A short-term, limited-duration health insurance policy or contract shall be nonrenewable.
(c) A policy or contract for short-term, limited-duration health insurance coverage shall display prominently in the policy or contract and in any application materials provided in connection with enrollment in that coverage, in at least 14-point type, such disclosures as the Commissioner may require regarding the scope of short-term, limited-duration coverage, including the types of benefits and consumer protections that are and are not included.

Sec. 4. Health Insurance

(a) The Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking Omnibus Amendment Act of 2006, effective March 8, 2007 (D.C. Law 16-232; D.C. Official Code § 31-231, et. seq.) is amended as follows:

(1) Section 102 (D.C. Official Code 31-231) is amended by adding the following sentence to the end of the Section: “A self-insured multiple employer welfare arrangement that offers or administers a health plan covering resident of the District acts as an insurer within the scope of this title”

Sec. 5. D.C. Health Benefit Exchange

(a) The District of Columbia Health Benefit Exchange Authority Establishment Act of 2011, effective March 2, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-94; D.C. Official Code § 31-3171.01, et. seq.), is amended as follows:

(1) Section 2 (D.C. Official Code § 31-3171.01) is amended by adding a new paragraph 5F as follows:

“(F) A health benefit plan offered by an insurer, association, professional employer organization, or other entity that covers eligible employees located in the District of a small employer in the District, including a plan issued under the laws of another state, shall be treated as a health benefit plan offered to a small employer.”
Sec. 6. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Federal Law Conformity Act of 1997


(1) Section 301 (D.C. Official Code 31-3303.01) is amended as follows:

(A) The first paragraph is amended by inserting an “(a)” at the beginning.

(B) A new paragraph (b) is added to read as follows:

“(b) This subchapter applies to any health benefit plan offered by an association, professional employer organization, or other entity, including a plan issued under the laws of another state, if the health benefit plan covers eligible employees of one or more small employers and meets the requirements of subsection (a).”

Sec. 7. Fiscal impact statement.


Sec. 8. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.