

HJR 19 -- Health Care Freedom

Sponsor: Bahr

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment specifies that each citizen has an inherent liberty that includes the autonomy to make decisions regarding lawful health care-related services or products and payment for those services or products. No government official or agency will have authority to compel any person, employer, or health care provider to participate in a health care system or to be penalized for not participating in a health care system nor to make a citizen's right to offer or accept direct payment for lawful health care services subject to any penalty, tax, fee, or levy. These provisions cannot prevent the state's courts from enforcing contracts or prevent the General Assembly from establishing laws that prohibit certain dangerous health care services, impose reasonably uniform regulation of the health insurance industry, or impose or collect uniformly imposed taxes for funding public health care programs if all the laws are consistent with all other constitutional provisions.