As Introduced

128th General Assembly Regular Session 2009-2010

S. B. No. 244

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Senators Jones, Grendell

Cosponsors: Senators Buehrer, Carey, Gibbs, Schaffer, Seitz

A BILL

To enact section 3901.711 of the Revised Code to

| prohibit requiring an individual to obtain or | 2 |
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| maintain a policy of health insurance. | 3 |
| BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO: | |
| Section 1. That section 3901.711 of the Revised Code be | 4 |
| enacted to read as follows: | 5 |
| Sec. 3901.711. (A)(1) No individual who is a resident of this | 6 |
| state, regardless of whether the individual has or is eligible for | 7 |
| health insurance coverage under any policy or program provided by | 8 |
| or through the individual's employer, or a plan sponsored by this | 9 |
| state or the federal government, shall be required to obtain or | 10 |
| maintain a policy of individual health insurance coverage. | 11 |
| (2) No provision of Chapter 1751. or Title XXXIX of the | 12 |
| Revised Code shall render an individual who is a resident of this | 13 |
| state liable for any penalty, assessment, fee, or fine as a result | 14 |
| of the individual's failure to procure or obtain health insurance | 15 |
| coverage. | 16 |
| (3) No public official, employee, or agent of this state or | 17 |
| any political subdivision shall impose, collect, enforce, or | 18 |

effectuate any penalty as a result of the failure of an individual

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| who is a resident of this state to procure or obtain health | 20 |
| insurance coverage. | 21 |
| (B) The attorney general shall seek injunctive or any other | 22 |
| appropriate relief as expeditiously as possible to preserve the | 23 |
| rights and property of the residents of this state, and to defend | 24 |
| as necessary this state, its officials, employees and agents in | 25 |
| the event that any government, subdivision, or government agency | 26 |
| enacts or adopts any law, rule, or regulation that violates | 27 |
| division (A) of this section. | 28 |
| (C) This section shall not apply to individuals voluntarily | 29 |
| applying for coverage under the medicaid program established under | 30 |
| Chapter 5111. of the Revised Code or the children's health | 31 |
| insurance program established under sections 5101.50 to 5101.529 | 32 |
| of the Revised Code. | 33 |