



Legislation Summary:

An Act to protect access to confidential health care

Initial bill number: [S591/H2960](#) (Bill numbers will change as legislation proceeds.)

Sponsors: Sen. Karen Spilka, Rep. Kate Hogan

This bill establishes mechanisms to ensure that, when multiple people are on the same insurance plan, confidential health information is not shared with anyone other than the patient.

Health insurers routinely send explanation of benefit notices (EOB) detailing the type and cost of medical services received to the primary subscriber each time an enrollee on the plan accesses care. Confidential health information may be disclosed in an EOB, violating the basic right to privacy for anyone enrolled as a dependent on another's policy, such as a young adult, minor or spouse.

In cases of domestic violence the system of sending out EOBs to the subscriber not the patient often prevents a woman from seeking health care. Under the Affordable Care Act, adult children up to 26 who stay on their parents' plan need their information coming to them, not to their parents.