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TEXAS SENATE PASSES SEN. LARRY TAYLOR'S "PRO-LIFE INSURANCE ACT" ***-Senate Bill 20 Prohibits Texans from Subsidizing Abortion Procedures-***

AUSTIN, TEXAS (March 27, 2017) . . . Today, Senator Larry Taylor (R – Friendswood) announced the passage of Senate Bill 20 by the Texas Senate. The legislation, known as the "Pro-Life Insurance Act", prohibits Texans from subsidizing the cost of elective abortion procedures and affirms Texas' right to prohibit coverage for abortion offered through the federally mandated exchange. The legislation requires an enrollee under a state issued, private individual or group based health benefit plan to purchase separate supplemental coverage for abortion, except for medical emergencies.

Senator Taylor said, "As a strong defender of innocent human life, I'm committed to ensuring Texans aren't forced to subsidize the cost of abortion procedures. I will continue to be a strong voice for the protection of our most vulnerable."

Under the Affordable Care Act, each state is allowed to establish their own parameters for abortion coverage in the federally mandated state-based marketplace. Currently, 25 other states have adopted legislation to restrict coverage for elective abortions.

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick added, "Senate Bill 20 is an important step in ensuring that Texans are never forced to violate their conscience by paying for someone else's decision to end an innocent life. It's imperative that we continue to fight for religious liberty, for life and for those who do not have a voice."

Senate Bill 20 is substantially the same version of last session's Senate Bill 575 which passed the full Senate during the 84th Legislature. The bill was amended in the Texas House of Representatives, made it out of the Calendars Committee, and then died during the closing days of the last legislative session.

Senator Larry Taylor is a lifelong Texan and Baylor University graduate raised in Friendswood. He and his wife Kerri have three adult children and two grandchildren. Senator Taylor owns Truman Taylor Insurance Agency in Friendswood, an independent agency started by his father 55 years ago. Prior to his election to the Texas Senate in 2012, he served five terms in the Texas House of Representatives. Senator Taylor represents Senate District 11, comprised of portions of Brazoria, Galveston, and Harris Counties.

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