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HOW LIFE INSURERS ASSESS RISK TO PROVIDE COVERAGE

Life insurers offer products that help people build financial security through all stages of life. We rely on a complete medical record to accurately assess risk and keep coverage affordable and accessible.

UNDERSTANDING RISK

Thanks to advances in genetic science, people can take more control over their health and future. But when it comes to life insurance, companies rely on **verified medical records** — not at-home genetic tests — so both insurers and applicants are on the same page.

Without complete medical information, coverage could become more expensive even for those who are lower risk, and fewer policies might be available. That means families who need financial protection the most could face higher costs or limited options.

ACCESSING COVERAGE

Life insurance is available in many forms, and we are committed to making sure people have a range of coverage options. A person can buy **individual coverage** on their own, often get **group coverage** through an employer, or choose **guaranteed issue life insurance**, which provides some coverage and usually does not require a detailed medical exam.

And the marketplace is working — life insurers pay out **billions of dollars** to the beneficiaries of life insurance policies each year. We want to do even more to protect Americans financially, and that means having the information needed to understand risk.

In 2024, life insurers paid out **$89 billion** in life insurance benefits.

SUPPORTING TRANSPARENCY

Transparency is essential to protecting Americans' financial futures. When **information is clear and accessible**, we can make informed decisions and provide the coverage families need. The government should support — not hinder — our ability to carry out this mission.

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