

(I) A CORRESPONDING OUTPATIENT SERVICE WHICH THAT IS FURNISHED TO THE INSURED IN LIEU OF THE INPATIENT SERVICE BY REASON OF THE DENIAL RESULTING FROM A UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM OF A REQUEST BY THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN FOR AN INPATIENT ADMISSION; AND

(II) AN OBJECTIVE SECOND OPINION GIVEN THE INSURED WHEN REQUIRED BY A UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM UNDER SECTION 19-319 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report to the General Assembly on or before July 1, 1986, concerning the success of the utilization review system established under this Act.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report to the General Assembly by October 1, 1986, and each year thereafter until 1989, on the effectiveness of utilization review programs, including the readmission rates and standards provided each year.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates shall appoint 5 Senators and 5 Delegates, respectively, to serve as the Joint Committee on Health Care Cost Containment. The Joint Committee shall be staffed by the Department of Legislative Reference and the Department of Fiscal Services. The Joint Committee, along with the AEBR Committee, shall review, prior to publication in the Maryland Register, any regulations relating to minimum standards for hospital patient utilization review programs proposed pursuant to this Act and any regulations relating to hospital closures, mergers, and consolidations proposed pursuant to Chapter ____ (HB 1551/SB 655) of the Laws of 1985. The Joint Committee established by this Section may also consider and review any issues relating to the Health Resources Planning Commission, the Health Services Cost Review Commission, the certificate of need process, the State Health Plan, institution specific studies, and any other issues relating to health care cost containment raised or addressed in Chapter ____ (HB 1068/SB 494), Chapter ____ (HB 1069/SB 492), Chapter ____ (HB 1072/SB 493), Chapter ____ (HB 1073/SB 495), and Chapter ____ (HB 1551/SB 655) of the Laws of 1985. This section shall terminate and be of no effect on June 1, 1990.

~~SECTION 2-3-4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1985.~~