

Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

### Senate Bill 475

AN ACT concerning

#### Continuity of Patient Care Act

FOR the purpose of requiring a health maintenance organization that allows a member or subscriber to receive certain emergency medical services, under certain circumstances, to reimburse a physician in an urgent care facility certain health care provider who provides certain medically necessary follow-up care to a member or subscriber of the health maintenance organization; prohibiting a health maintenance organization, under certain circumstances, from imposing on a member or subscriber any co-payment or other cost-sharing requirement that exceeds what the member or subscriber is required to pay for services rendered by a physician health care provider who is a member of the provider panel of the health maintenance organization; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to health maintenance organizations.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section ~~19-712.7~~ 19-712.5(f)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

#### Article - Health - General

~~19-712.7.~~

~~IF A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION AUTHORIZES, DIRECTS, REFERS, OR OTHERWISE ALLOWS A MEMBER OR SUBSCRIBER OF THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION TO USE A MEDICAL FACILITY THAT PROVIDES IMMEDIATE URGENT CARE SERVICES FOR A CONDITION THAT READILY NECESSITATES A SURGICAL PROCEDURE, THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION:~~

~~(1) SHALL REIMBURSE A PHYSICIAN IN THE URGENT CARE FACILITY FOR PROVIDING ANY MEDICALLY NECESSARY FOLLOW UP CARE RELATED TO THE CONDITION FOR WHICH THE SURGICAL PROCEDURE WAS PERFORMED; AND~~

~~(2) MAY NOT IMPOSE ON THE MEMBER OR SUBSCRIBER ANY CO PAYMENT OR OTHER COST SHARING REQUIREMENT THAT EXCEEDS WHAT THE MEMBER OR SUBSCRIBER IS REQUIRED TO PAY FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY A PHYSICIAN WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE PROVIDER PANEL OF THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION.~~