

(ii) was not under a COBRA continuation provision, and either the coverage was terminated as a result of loss of eligibility for the coverage, including loss of eligibility as a result of legal separation, divorce, death, termination of employment, or reduction in the number of hours of employment, or employer contributions towards the coverage were terminated.

(E) A CARRIER SHALL ALLOW AN EMPLOYEE OR DEPENDENT WHO IS ELIGIBLE, BUT NOT ENROLLED, FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE TERMS OF A GROUP HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN TO ENROLL FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE PLAN IF THE EMPLOYEE OR DEPENDENT REQUESTS ENROLLMENT WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE EMPLOYEE OR DEPENDENT IS DETERMINED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE MCHP PRIVATE OPTION PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15-301.1 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

27-220.

An agent, broker, or insurer may not refer an individual employee or dependent of an employee to the [Children and Families Health Care Program] MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM established under Title 15, Subtitle 3 of the Health - General Article or arrange for an individual employee or dependent of an employee to apply for the [Children and Families Health Care Program] MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM established under Title 15, Subtitle 3 of the Health - General Article if the agent, broker, or insurer has an economic interest in the referral or the arrangement and the agent's, broker's, or insurer's sole purpose is to separate that employee or that employee's dependent from group health insurance coverage provided in connection with the employee's employment.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publisher of the Annotated Code of Maryland, subject to the approval of the Department of Legislative Services, shall correct any references to the Children and Families Health Care Program throughout the Code that are rendered incorrect by this Act.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the implementation of the Maryland Children's Health Program Private Option Plan on or before December 1, 2003.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall take effect June 1, 2000.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 5 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Approved April 25, 2000.