

available upon request to residents of Maryland; and to require health insurers and non-profit health insurance plans to furnish data to the Commissioner with respect to this compilation; and to provide for the financing of the cost of the collecting, maintenance and publication of this data.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 26A be and it is hereby added to Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Replacement Volume), title "Insurance Code," subtitle "Insurance Division and Insurance Commissioner," to follow immediately after Section 26 thereof and to read as follows:

26A.

II(A) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL REQUIRE, BY ORDER, NOTICE, RULE, OR REGULATION, EVERY INSURER WHO ISSUES POLICIES OF HEALTH, ACCIDENT, OR GROUP AND BLANKET HEALTH INSURANCE TO FILE WITH THE COMMISSIONER DATA SETTING FORTH THE RANGE OF USUAL, CUSTOMARY, AND REASONABLE FEES, RATES AND OTHER COSTS CHARGED TO PATIENTS BY PHYSICIANS, SURGEONS, DENTISTS, HOSPITALS, NURSING HOMES, NURSES, PSYCHIATRISTS, PHARMACISTS, OPTICIANS, OPTOMETRISTS, OSTEOPATHS, PODIATRISTS, CHIROPRACTORS, PHYSICAL THERAPISTS, AND ANY OTHER PROVIDERS OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

(B) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COLLECT, MAINTAIN, UP-DATE, AND PUBLISH THIS DATA NOT LESS THAN ONCE A YEAR IN PAMPHLET OR BOOKLET FORM.

(C) COPIES OF THE PUBLICATION OF THIS DATA SHALL BE FORWARDED BY THE COMMISSIONER AT NO COST TO ANY MEMBER OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC UPON REQUEST. II

(A) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL OBTAIN AND COMPILE DATA SUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH THE RANGE OF USUAL, CUSTOMARY AND REASONABLE FEES AND RATES CHARGED PATIENTS IN MARYLAND BY PHYSICIANS, SURGEONS, DENTISTS, PRIVATE DUTY NURSES, PSYCHIATRISTS, PODIATRISTS, AND, IN THE COMMISSIONERS DISCRETION, ANY OTHER CLASSIFICATION OF PROVIDERS OF MEDICAL SERVICES. ALL SUCH DATA WHETHER PUBLISHED OR NOT, AND WHETHER FOR AGGREGATES OR INDIVIDUAL PROVIDERS, SHALL BE A PUBLIC RECORD AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION IN THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

(B) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COLLECT, MAINTAIN AND UP-DATE THIS DATA AND, SHALL AT LEAST ONCE IN EACH CALENDAR YEAR PUBLISH IN PAMPHLET OR BOOKLET FORM AS MUCH OF THIS DATA OR INFORMATION AS HE DEEMS USEFUL AND PRACTICABLE. SUCH PUBLICATION SHALL SHOW DATA FOR AGGREGATES OF PROVIDERS RATHER THAN FOR INDIVIDUALS. THE COMMISSIONER MAY SHOW THE DATA BY GEOGRAPHIC AREAS IF HE DEEMS SUCH SUBDIVISION WILL SERVE A USEFUL PURPOSE.

(C) COPIES OF THE PAMPHLET OR BOOKLET SHALL BE FORWARDED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO ANY MARYLAND RESIDENT. THE COMMISSIONER MAY CHARGE A REASONABLE FEE TO COVER THE COST OF PRINTING, HANDLING AND MAILING OF THE PAMPHLET OR BOOKLET.