

Article 48A - Insurance Code

437.

Nothing in this subtitle shall apply to or affect:

(2) Any group or blanket policy EXCEPT AS TO 438A OF THIS ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That new Section 438A be and it is hereby added to Article 48A - Insurance Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Replacement Volume and 1973 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 48A - Insurance Code

438A.

(A) ALL INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES PROVIDING COVERAGE ON AN EXPENSE INCURRED BASIS AND INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP SERVICE OR INDEMNITY TYPE CONTRACTS ISSUED BY A NONPROFIT CORPORATION WHICH PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR A FAMILY MEMBER OF THE INSURED OR SUBSCRIBER SHALL, AS TO SUCH FAMILY MEMBERS' COVERAGE, ALSO PROVIDE THAT THE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS APPLICABLE FOR CHILDREN SHALL BE PAYABLE WITH RESPECT TO A NEWLY BORN CHILD OF THE INSURED OR SUBSCRIBER FROM THE MOMENT OF BIRTH.

(B) THE COVERAGE FOR NEWLY BORN CHILDREN SHALL ALSO CONSIST OF COVERAGE OF INJURY OR SICKNESS INCLUDING THE NECESSARY CARE AND TREATMENT OF MEDICALLY DIAGNOSED CONGENITAL DEFECTS AND BIRTH ABNORMALITIES.

(C) IF PAYMENT OF A SPECIFIC PREMIUM OR SUBSCRIPTION FEE IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR A CHILD, THE POLICY OR CONTRACT MAY REQUIRE THAT NOTIFICATION OF BIRTH OF A NEWLY BORN CHILD AND PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED PREMIUM OR FEES MUST BE FURNISHED TO THE INSURER OR NONPROFIT SERVICE OR INDEMNITY CORPORATION WITHIN 31 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF BIRTH IN ORDER TO HAVE THE COVERAGE CONTINUE BEYOND SUCH 31 DAY PERIOD.

(D) THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ACT SHALL APPLY TO ALL INSURANCE POLICIES AND SUBSCRIBER CONTRACTS DELIVERED OR ISSUED FOR DELIVERY IN THIS STATE MORE THAN 120 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ACT.