

(House Bill 651)

AN ACT concerning

Mental Health - Charges for Emergency Evaluations

FOR the purpose of providing that certain charges for emergency services, initial consultant physician examination related to an emergency evaluation under the mental hygiene laws, and transportation to certain emergency facilities are to be paid by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and providing that under certain conditions and subject to certain limitations the Department shall be subrogated against certain insurance coverage available to certain patients;--and ~~making this Act an emergency measure.~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General
Section 10-628
Annotated Code of Maryland
(As enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 200) of the Acts
of the General Assembly of 1982)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 200) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1982) read(s) as follows:

Article - Health - General

10-628.

(A) If an emergency evaluatee does not have insurance that covers the [cost of] CHARGES FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, an initial consultant examination by a physician and transportation to an emergency facility AND TO THE ADMITTING FACILITY under Part IV of this subtitle, the Department shall pay the appropriate party ~~at a rate not to exceed the usual, fair and customary and reasonable rate as established by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, inc~~ THE MEDIAN RATE PAID FOR THIS SERVICE IN THE AREA OF THE STATE WHERE THE SERVICE IS PROVIDED, EXCEPT THAT HOSPITALS SHALL BE PAID AT RATES APPROVED BY THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION.

(B) WITH RESPECT TO EMERGENCY ADMISSIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE SUBROGATED AGAINST ANY INSURANCE COVERAGE AVAILABLE TO THE PATIENT FOR CHARGES RELATING TO EMERGENCY SERVICE, INITIAL CONSULTANT EXAMINATION BY A PHYSICIAN, AND TRANSPORTATION TO AN EMERGENCY FACILITY UNDER PART IV OF THIS SUBTITLE.