

Thus, it is the intent of this Act to foster the development of hospice care programs which will provide the final link in the chain of health care by furnishing support and care for persons in the last stages of an incurable illness; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article 48A - Insurance Code

~~361E.~~

~~ANY---NONPROFIT---HEALTH--SERVICE--CONTRACT--OF--HEALTH INSURANCE--THAT--IS--ISSUED--ON--AN--EXPENSE--INCURRED--BASIS--SHALL OFFER--AS--AN--OPTION--COVERAGE--FOR--SERVICES--PROVIDED--BY--A HOSPICE--CARE--FACILITY,--AS--DEFINED--IN--§--12--901--OF--THE--HEALTH --GENERAL--ARTICLE.~~

~~470Q.~~

~~ANY--INDIVIDUAL---CONTRACT--OF--HEALTH--INSURANCE--THAT--IS ISSUED--ON--AN--EXPENSE--INCURRED--BASIS--SHALL--OFFER--AS--AN--OPTION COVERAGE--FOR--SERVICES--PROVIDED--BY--A--HOSPICE--CARE--FACILITY, AS--DEFINED--IN--§--12--901--OF--THE--HEALTH---GENERAL--ARTICLE.~~

~~477W.~~

~~ANY--GROUP--CONTRACT--OF--HEALTH--INSURANCE--THAT--IS--ISSUED ON--AN--EXPENSE--INCURRED--BASIS--SHALL--OFFER--AS--AN--OPTION COVERAGE--FOR--SERVICES--PROVIDED--BY--A--HOSPICE--CARE--FACILITY, AS--DEFINED--IN--§--12--901--OF--THE--HEALTH---GENERAL--ARTICLE.~~

361E.

A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN SHALL OFFER BENEFITS FOR HOSPICE CARE SERVICES TO ITS SUBSCRIBERS.

470Q.

EVERY INSURER WHO ISSUES OR DELIVERS AN INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY TO ANY PERSON IN THIS STATE ON AN EXPENSE INCURRED BASIS SHALL OFFER BENEFITS FOR HOSPICE CARE SERVICES TO ITS INSURED.

477W.

EVERY INSURER WHO ISSUES OR DELIVERS A GROUP OR BLANKET HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY OR CONTRACT IN THIS STATE ON AN EXPENSE INCURRED BASIS SHALL OFFER BENEFITS FOR HOSPICE CARE SERVICES TO ITS POLICYHOLDERS OR BENEFICIARIES.