

CHAPTER 365

(House Bill 303)

AN ACT concerning

Health Insurance - Mandated Benefits - Smoking Cessation Treatment

FOR the purpose of requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for certain drugs; ~~and nicotine replacement therapy; and office visits to a physician or other health care provider~~ to assist an insured or enrollee to cease the use of tobacco products; prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from imposing certain copayments or coinsurance requirements for certain drugs; and nicotine replacement therapy; ~~and office visits~~; defining certain terms; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to health insurance benefits for smoking cessation treatment.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 19-706(ddd)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Insurance

Section 15-841

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health - General

19-706.

(DDD) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-841 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

Article - Insurance

15-841.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "AUTHORIZED PRESCRIBER" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 12-101 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.