

major medical expense coverage, benefits, after the applicable deductible, for covered expenses arising from all those services, other than inpatient, which are rendered to treat acute mental illness and emotional disorders, shall be ~~at a rate which is not less than 65 PERCENT FOR THE FIRST 15 20 VISITS PER YEAR CALENDAR YEAR OR BENEFIT PERIOD AND NOT LESS THAN 50 percent FOR ANY VISITS THEREAFTER FOR THAT YEAR CALENDAR YEAR OR BENEFIT PERIOD,~~ of ~~an~~ EQUIVALENT ~~to~~ the benefits which the policy provides for other types of illness.

477E.

(a) Every hospital or major medical insurance policy or certificate written on an expense incurred basis which is delivered or issued for delivery, within this State must include benefits for expenses arising from treatment of acute mental illnesses and emotional disorders which in the professional judgment of practitioners are subject to significant improvement through short-term therapy. These benefits must be at least equal to the following minimum requirements: (1) with respect to benefits for confinement as an inpatient in a hospital, the period of confinement for which benefits are payable shall be at least 30 days in any calendar year or benefit period; (2) with respect to major medical expense coverage, benefits, after the applicable deductible, for covered expenses arising from all those services, other than inpatient, which are rendered to treat acute mental illness and emotional disorders, shall be ~~at a rate which is not less than 65 PERCENT FOR THE FIRST 15 20 VISITS PER YEAR CALENDAR YEAR OR BENEFIT PERIOD AND NOT LESS THAN 50 percent FOR ANY VISITS THEREAFTER FOR THAT YEAR CALENDAR YEAR OR BENEFIT PERIOD,~~ of ~~an~~ EQUIVALENT ~~to~~ the benefits which the policy provides for other types of illness.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, If the contingency in Section 3 of this Act occurs, it shall remain effective for a period of no more than 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 1989, and with no further action required by the General Assembly, the changes made to Section(s) 354B(a), and 470E(a), and 477E(a) by this Act shall be void and of no effect. On July 1, 1989, Section(s) 354B, 470E, and 477E, as codified immediately prior to the effective date of this Act, shall be revived and the Michie Publishing Company shall include Section(s) 354B, 470E, and 477E in the Annotated Code of Maryland as the sections existed before July 1, 1986 and as amended by enactments subsequent to this Act.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply only to contracts issued or renewed after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 2. SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1986, contingent upon the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, in conjunction with the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, adopting