

VETOES

(II) A HEALTH INSURER, NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN, HEALTH INSURANCE SERVICE ORGANIZATION, OR PREFERRED PROVIDER ORGANIZATION AUTHORIZED TO OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR CONTRACTS IN THIS STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 48A OF THE CODE.

(D) "UTILIZATION REVIEW PLAN" MEANS A DESCRIPTION OF THE STANDARDS GOVERNING UTILIZATION REVIEW ACTIVITIES PERFORMED BY A PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT.

(E) "COMMISSIONER" MEANS THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER.

(F) "CERTIFICATE" MEANS A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION GRANTED BY THE SECRETARY TO A PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT.

19-1302.

THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE ARE:

(1) TO PROMOTE THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE IN A COST EFFECTIVE MANNER;

(2) TO FOSTER GREATER COORDINATION BETWEEN PAYORS AND PROVIDERS CONDUCTING UTILIZATION REVIEW ACTIVITIES;

(3) TO PROTECT PATIENTS, BUSINESS, AND PROVIDERS BY ENSURING THAT PRIVATE REVIEW AGENTS ARE QUALIFIED TO PERFORM UTILIZATION REVIEW ACTIVITIES AND TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ON THE APPROPRIATENESS OF MEDICAL CARE; AND

(4) TO ENSURE THAT PRIVATE REVIEW AGENTS MAINTAIN THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL RECORDS REQUIRED BY STATE AND FEDERAL LAW.

19-1303.

A PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE AGENT MAY CONDUCT A UTILIZATION REVIEW IN THE STATE.

19-1304.

(A) (1) AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER, PAYORS, AND PROVIDERS OF HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING THE MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL FACULTY OF MARYLAND, THE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, AND THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, AND THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(2) TO QUALIFY FOR CERTIFICATION TO CONDUCT A UTILIZATION REVIEW, AN APPLICANT SHALL MEET THE REQUIREMENTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT ADOPTS.