

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 19-706(k)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

~~BY adding to~~

~~Article - Health Occupations~~

~~Section 14-509~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(1991 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)~~

Preamble

WHEREAS, As part of Mercy Medical Center's efforts to launch Baltimore City's most comprehensive women's program, it commissioned the Gallup Organization to survey 500 women who live and work in downtown Baltimore City; and

WHEREAS, The findings of the survey were startling, showing that between 38 and 44 percent of all women age 18 through 40 visit only an obstetrician/gynecologist (OB/GYN) for their routine care; and

WHEREAS, For women aged 41 years and older, 27 percent see only an OB/GYN for their routine care; and

WHEREAS, For minority women and those women of limited financial means, the percentages in all age groups who see only an OB/GYN for their routine care are significantly higher than others; and

WHEREAS, The federal Health Security Act has recognized that OB/GYNs are sometimes the only physician a significant number of women see for their primary care needs; and

WHEREAS, Maryland should also recognize the significance of OB/GYNs in providing primary care to women in the State; now, therefore,

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

Article 48A - Insurance Code

490W.

ANY INSURER OR NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN THAT PROVIDES HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS FOR ISSUANCE OR DELIVERY IN THE STATE TO ANY GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL ON AN EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS, INCLUDING A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION, SHALL: