

~~(3) "MANDATED BENEFIT" DOES NOT INCLUDE A STATUTE REQUIRING REIMBURSEMENT TO A HOSPITAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RATES APPROVED BY THE STATE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION.~~

~~(K) "MEMBER EMPLOYER" MEANS AN EMPLOYER WHO ENROLLS WITH THE REGIONAL HEALTH COOPERATIVE AND PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM.~~

~~(L) "PARTICIPATING CARRIER" MEANS A CARRIER THAT HAS SUBMITTED A CONTRACT TO THE REGIONAL HEALTH COOPERATIVE TO OFFER HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~(M) "PREEXISTING CONDITION" MEANS:~~

~~(1) A CONDITION EXISTING DURING A SPECIFIED PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF COVERAGE THAT WOULD HAVE CAUSED AN ORDINARILY PRUDENT PERSON TO SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE, DIAGNOSIS, CARE, OR TREATMENT; OR~~

~~(2) A CONDITION FOR WHICH MEDICAL ADVICE, DIAGNOSIS, CARE, OR TREATMENT WAS RECOMMENDED OR RECEIVED DURING A SPECIFIED PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS COVERAGE.~~

~~(N) "PREEXISTING CONDITION PROVISION" MEANS A PROVISION IN A HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN THAT DENIES, EXCLUDES, OR LIMITS BENEFITS FOR AN ENROLLEE FOR EXPENSES OR SERVICES RELATED TO A PREEXISTING CONDITION.~~

~~(O) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR THE OFFER AND PURCHASE OF HEALTH INSURANCE THROUGH REGIONAL HEALTH COOPERATIVES.~~

~~(P) "REGIONAL HEALTH COOPERATIVE" MEANS A REGIONAL HEALTH COOPERATIVE ESTABLISHED UNDER § 738 OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~(Q) "REGIONAL AREA" MEANS ONE OF FOUR CONTIGUOUS GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER AS PROVIDED UNDER § 702 OF THIS ARTICLE.~~

~~(R) "SERVICE AREA" MEANS A PORTION OF A REGIONAL AREA IN WHICH A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION IS LICENSED TO OPERATE.~~

~~(S) "SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFIT" MEANS A COMMUNITY RATED BENEFIT OFFERED UNDER A HEALTH CARE PLAN THAT:~~

~~(1) DOES NOT DUPLICATE ANY OF THE BENEFITS IN THE COMPREHENSIVE STANDARD HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN;~~

~~(2) INCREASES ACCESS TO CARE CHOICES, INCREASES THE FREQUENCY WITH WHICH SERVICES MAY BE OBTAINED, OR LOWERS THE UNIFORM COST SHARING ARRANGEMENTS DESCRIBED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE STANDARD HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN;~~

~~(3) IS PRICED SEPARATELY FROM THE COMPREHENSIVE STANDARD HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN; AND~~