Ch. 605

1995 LAWS OF MARYLAND

failure to report pursuant to the requirements of this section shall-result in imposition of a civil penalty of up to \$5.000 by a circuit court of this State.

490CC.

- (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
 - (2) "CARRIER" MEANS:
 - (I) AN INSURER;
 - (II) A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN;
 - (III) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION;
 - (IV) A DENTAL PLAN ORGANIZATION; OR
- (V) ANY OTHER PERSON OR ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS SUBJECT TO STATE REGULATION.
- (3) "HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER" MEANS ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES.
- (B) A CARRIER THAT REIMBURSES A HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER ON AN AGGREGATE FIXED SUM BASIS OR ON A PER CAPITA BASIS MAY NOT REIMBURSE THE HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER IN AN AMOUNT LESS THAN THE SUM OR RATE NEGOTIATED IN THE CARRIER'S PROVIDER CONTRACT WITH THE HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER.
- (C) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A CARRIER FROM PROVIDING BONUSES OR OTHER INCENTIVE-BASED COMPENSATION TO A HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER IF THE BONUS OR OTHER INCENTIVE-BASED COMPENSATION DOES NOT:
- (1) <u>VIOLATE THE PROVISIONS OF § 19–705.1 OF THE HEALTH GENERAL</u>
 ARTICLE; OR
- (2) <u>DETER THE DELIVERY OF MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE CARE TO AN</u> ENROLLEE.

Article Health General

15-102.2.

- (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, "PRACTITIONER" MEANS A PERSON LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS OF A PROFESSION.
- (2) "PRACTITIONER" INCLUDES A PHARMACY, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, PROFESSIONAL OFFICE, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY AUTHORIZED TO RENDER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR OR ON BEHALF OF A PRACTITIONER.