

(b) (1) ~~Each county must expend funds for fire protection from its own sources that are at least equal to the amount of State funds to be received. A local government may receive less than the amount initially allocated. In determining the amount expended by a county, prior to certification, the Secretary shall review the financial information of the local government for the first completed fiscal year prior to the fiscal year for which State funds are appropriated. Funds received from the Emergency Assistance Trust Fund under § 46A of this article or other State funds may not be used as matching funds.~~

(2) ~~NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IN FISCAL YEARS 1996 AND 1997, EACH COUNTY IS ONLY REQUIRED TO EXPEND FUNDS FOR FIRE PROTECTION FROM ITS OWN SOURCES THAT ARE AT LEAST EQUAL TO 90 PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS TO BE RECEIVED.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be applied retroactively to July 1, 1995.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall remain effective until the end of June 30, 1997 and, at the end of June 30, 1997 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved May 14, 1996.

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## CHAPTER 425

### (House Bill 10)

AN ACT concerning

#### **Health Insurance – Expense and Loss Ratio Information**

FOR the purpose of ~~repealing~~ restructuring the benchmarks that provide expense ratio guidelines by which the Insurance Commissioner may require new rate filings on a health benefit plan offered by a nonprofit health service plan, insurer, or health maintenance organization; establishing certain loss ratio benchmarks; authorizing the Insurance Commissioner to collect specified information ~~by line of business~~ for health benefit plans in the State; providing for certain exceptions; imposing a penalty for failure to file information with the Commissioner in a timely manner; requiring certain information to be included in certain marketing materials; authorizing the Commissioner to conduct certain examinations; ~~and requiring the Commissioner to transmit certain information to the Health Care Access and Cost Commission by a certain date~~ requiring the Commissioner to adopt certain