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Act; and generally relating to the notice to insureds concerning benefits under personal injury protection coverage in motor vehicle liability insurance.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 48A Insurance Code

Section 544

Annotated Code-of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Insurance

Section 19-508

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Volume)

(As enacted by Chapter 11 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Chapter 339 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1977 was enacted to require a motor vehicle liability insurer to notify an insured who had been injured in a motor vehicle accident of the amount of time available for filing of a claim for benefits under personal injury protection coverage; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly did not intend for this notification to apply to any other type of first party claim for benefits other than benefits under the personal injury protection coverage; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds it necessary now to clarify the intent of Chapter 339; 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

544

- (a) All-payments of benefits described under § 539 of this subtitle shall be made periodically as the claims therefor arise and within 30 days after satisfactory-proof-thereof is received by the insurer subject to the following limitations:
- (1) The coverages described in § 539 of this subtitle may prescribe a period of not less than 12 months after the date of accident within which the original claim for benefits must be presented to the insurer.
- (2) The coverages described in § 539 of this subtitle may provide that in any instance where a lapse occurs in the period of total disability or in the medical treatment of an injured person who has received benefits under such coverage or coverages and such person subsequently claims additional benefits based upon an alleged recurrence of the injury for which the original claim for benefits was made, the insurer may require