762.

- (A) IN DETERMINING A PERIOD OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE, ANY PERIOD THAT AN INDIVIDUAL IS IN A WAITING PERIOD FOR COVERAGE UNDER A GROUP HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN OR AN AFFILIATION PERIOD MAY NOT BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING ANY PERIOD OF CONTINUOUS CREDITABLE COVERAGE.
- (B) A CARRIER SHALL COUNT A PERIOD OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE WITHOUT REGARD TO THE SPECIFIC BENEFITS COVERED DURING THE PERIOD. 763.

A CARRIER THAT ELECTS TO OFFER A HIGH LEVEL AND LOW LEVEL POLICY FORM UNDER § 757 OF THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT CHARGE A RATE TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS THAT IS GREATER THAN 200% OF THE RATE THE CARRIER NORMALLY WOULD CHARGE FOR THE SAME OR SIMILAR POLICY FORMS TO OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

## 60. MARYLAND HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT — LARGE GROUP MARKET REFORMS

764.

- (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
- (B) "AFFILIATION PERIOD" MEANS A PERIOD OF TIME BEGINNING ON THE DATE OF ENROLLMENT AND NOT TO EXCEED 2 MONTHS, OR 3 MONTHS IN THE CASE OF A LATE ENROLLEE, DURING WHICH A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION DOES NOT COLLECT PREMIUM AND COVERAGE ISSUED DOES NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE.
- (C) "ASSOCIATION" OR "BONA FIDE ASSOCIATION" MEANS, WITH RESPECT TO HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OFFERED IN THIS STATE, AN ASSOCIATION THAT:
  - (1) HAS BEEN ACTIVELY IN EXISTENCE FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS:
- (2) HAS BEEN FORMED AND MAINTAINED IN GOOD FAITH FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN OBTAINING INSURANCE AND DOES NOT CONDITION MEMBERSHIP ON THE PURCHASE OF ASSOCIATION-SPONSORED INSURANCE;
- (3) DOES NOT CONDITION MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION ON ANY HEALTH STATUS-RELATED FACTOR RELATING TO AN INDIVIDUAL, AND STATES SO CLEARLY IN ALL MEMBERSHIP AND APPLICATION MATERIALS;
- (4) MAKES HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OFFERED THROUGH THE ASSOCIATION AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS REGARDLESS OF ANY HEALTH STATUS-RELATED FACTOR RELATING TO THE MEMBERS OR INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE THROUGH A MEMBER AND STATES SO CLEARLY IN ALL MEMBERSHIP AND APPLICATION MATERIALS;