

CHAPTER 593

(Senate Bill 699)

AN ACT concerning

Health Insurance - Health Care Regulatory Fund and Complaint Process for Adverse Decisions or Grievances

FOR the purpose of exempting certain carriers from the health care regulatory assessment for the Health Care Regulatory Fund and from the requirements relating to the adverse decision and grievance process; altering a certain definition; defining a certain term; making certain provisions of law applicable to certain health benefit plans; and generally relating to the Health Care Regulatory Fund and the establishment of an internal grievance process by carriers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Insurance

Section 2-112.2 and 15-10A-01

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Insurance

Section 15-10A-01.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Volume and 1998 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Insurance

2-112.2.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Carrier" means A PERSON THAT OFFERS A HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN

AND IS:

[(i) an insurer that offers health insurance other than long term care insurance or disability insurance]

(I) AN AUTHORIZED INSURER THAT PROVIDES HEALTH INSURANCE IN THE STATE;

(ii) a nonprofit health service plan;

(iii) a health maintenance organization;