

Approved May 27, 1999.

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## CHAPTER 644

### (House Bill 576)

AN ACT concerning

#### Continuity of Patient Care Act

FOR the purpose of requiring a health maintenance organization that allows a member or subscriber to receive certain emergency medical services, under certain circumstances, to reimburse a physician in an urgent care facility certain health care provider who provides certain medically necessary follow-up care ~~to a member or subscriber of the health maintenance organization~~; prohibiting a health maintenance organization, under certain circumstances, from imposing on a member or subscriber any co-payment or other cost-sharing requirement that exceeds what the member or subscriber is required to pay for services rendered by a physician health care provider who is a member of the provider panel of the health maintenance organization; and generally relating to health maintenance organizations.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section ~~19-712.7~~ 19-712.5(f)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

#### Article - Health - General

~~19-712.7.~~

~~IF A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION AUTHORIZES, DIRECTS, REFERS, OR OTHERWISE ALLOWS A MEMBER OR SUBSCRIBER OF THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION TO USE A MEDICAL FACILITY THAT PROVIDES IMMEDIATE URGENT CARE SERVICES FOR A CONDITION THAT READILY NECESSITATES A SURGICAL PROCEDURE, THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION:~~

~~(1) SHALL REIMBURSE A PHYSICIAN IN THE URGENT CARE FACILITY FOR PROVIDING ANY MEDICALLY NECESSARY FOLLOW UP CARE RELATED TO THE CONDITION FOR WHICH THE SURGICAL PROCEDURE WAS PERFORMED; AND~~

~~(2) MAY NOT IMPOSE ON THE MEMBER OR SUBSCRIBER ANY CO-PAYMENT OR OTHER COST SHARING REQUIREMENT THAT EXCEEDS WHAT THE~~