

CHAPTER 50

(Senate Bill 774)

AN ACT concerning

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination in Health Insurance Act of 1999

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the use of certain genetic information to deny or otherwise affect a health insurance policy or contract; prohibiting the request or requirement of certain genetic information as a basis for issuing or renewing health benefits coverage; prohibiting the disclosure of certain genetic information to certain persons without certain authorization of the individual from whom the genetic information was obtained; identifying certain permissible purposes for disclosure of genetic information; defining certain terms; repealing the termination date of certain provisions of law that relate to the use of genetic tests; and generally relating to prohibiting discrimination on the basis of genetic information in health insurance.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Insurance

Section 27-909

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 24 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996

Section 2

BY repealing

Chapter 70 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1997

Section 21, 23, and 26

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

Article - Insurance

27-909.

(a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "GENE PRODUCT" MEANS THE BIOCHEMICAL MATERIAL, EITHER RNA OR PROTEIN, MADE BY A GENE.

(3) (I) "GENETIC INFORMATION" MEANS INFORMATION:

1. ABOUT CHROMOSOMES, GENES, GENE PRODUCTS, OR INHERITED CHARACTERISTICS THAT MAY DERIVE FROM AN INDIVIDUAL OR A FAMILY MEMBER;