

(iv) Except for kidney transplant services or programs, the kidney disease treatment stations and services provided by or on behalf of a hospital or related institution; or

(v) The office of one or more individuals licensed to practice dentistry under Title 4 of the Health Occupations Article, for the purposes of practicing dentistry.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report on the effects of the provisions of this Act on the long-term care industry, along with any findings and recommendations, as provided in § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly and to the Governor on or before January 1, 2002.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

Approved May 11, 2000.

CHAPTER 275

(Senate Bill 405)

AN ACT concerning

~~Health Maintenance Organizations - Subscribers and Enrollees - Private Contracts for Health Care Services Reimbursement of Non-Contracting Providers~~

~~FOR the purpose of authorizing health care providers or representatives to collect certain payments or charges from subscribers or enrollees of health maintenance organizations under certain circumstances; establishing the usual, customary, and reasonable rate of payment to health care providers by health maintenance organizations under certain circumstances; providing that health maintenance organizations shall bear the burden of proving that their payments are at the usual, customary, and reasonable rate; authorizing subscribers or enrollees of health maintenance organizations to enter into certain private contracts for health care services with health care providers under which the subscribers or enrollees accept financial responsibility for health care services under certain circumstances; requiring the Health Education and Advocacy Unit in the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General to develop a certain form; authorizing the enforcement of the provisions of this Act in a certain manner under certain circumstances; altering the reimbursement that a health maintenance organization must pay a non-contracting health care provider for certain services delivered to an enrollee or subscriber; requiring a health maintenance organization to reimburse a non-contracting health care provider at a certain rate; requiring a health maintenance organization to disclose a certain reimbursement rate on request of a certain health care provider; authorizing the enforcement of certain provisions of this Act in a~~