

Economic Matters Committee and the Finance Committee on or before a certain date; requiring that a carrier renew the health benefit plan of certain small employers that satisfied certain criteria on a certain date; requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission to study the feasibility and desirability of developing a high deductible health benefit plan for small employers; and generally relating to eligibility of small employers and employees under small group market health insurance.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Insurance

Section 15-1201(e) and (g), 15-1207(a), 15-1208, and 15-1210(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Insurance

Section ~~15-1201(e) and (g)~~, 15-1203; and ~~15-1206(c), 15-1207(a), 15-1208, and 15-1210(a)~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

Article – Insurance

15-1201.

(e) (1) "Eligible employee" means:

(i) an individual who:

1. is an employee, [sole proprietor, self-employed individual,] partner of a partnership, or independent contractor who is included as an employee under a health benefit plan; and

2. works on a full-time basis and has a normal workweek of at least 30 hours; or

(ii) a sole employee of a nonprofit organization that has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3), (4), or (6) of the Internal Revenue Code who:

1. has a normal workweek of at least 20 hours; and

2. is not covered under a public or private plan for health insurance or other health benefit arrangement.

(2) "Eligible employee" does not include an individual who works:

(i) on a temporary or substitute basis; or