

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
 President of the Senate
 State House
 Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 567 – Health Insurance – Access to Obstetric and Gynecological Services.

This bill requires a health insurer, nonprofit health service plan or HMO (carrier) to allow an enrollee to receive medically necessary, routine obstetric and gynecological care from an in-network, certified nurse midwife or any other in-network provider authorized under the law to provide obstetric and gynecological services without first requiring the enrollee to visit a primary care provider.

House Bill 669, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 11, 2000, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 567.

Sincerely,
 Parris N. Glendening
 Governor

Senate Bill No. 567

AN ACT concerning

Health Insurance – Access to Obstetric and Gynecological Services

FOR the purpose of ~~prohibiting~~ requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations ~~from limiting a woman's to allow a woman to have~~ direct access to certain obstetric and gynecological services from a certified nurse midwife ~~or certain other providers~~ or certain other providers; ~~requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to allow a woman to choose a certified nurse midwife under certain circumstances; requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to offer a woman a choice of an obstetric and gynecological provider within the health benefit plan; prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from requiring that a woman receive obstetric and gynecological services from a specific category of provider; requiring a certified nurse midwife and certain other health care providers to consult with a certain obstetrician/gynecologist in accordance with a certain agreement regarding the delivery of certain health care; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to access to obstetric and gynecological services under health insurance.~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Insurance