

fund Program benefits for the remaining enrollees in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, shall be transferred, no later than October 1, 2001 to the Maryland Health Insurance and Assistance Fund established under Title 14, Subtitle 5 of the Insurance Article; and

(e) Coverage under the Program shall cease on the earlier of:

(1) the date on which the last policy in existence on June 1, 2001 expires; or

(2) June 30, 2002.

SECTION 9. ~~4~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, *if the Maryland Health Care Foundation receives a distribution of public or charitable assets as the result of an acquisition of a nonprofit health service plan or a nonprofit health maintenance organization, approved by the Maryland Insurance Administration on or after June 1, 2001, in accordance with Title 6.5 of the State Government Article: the Maryland Health Insurance and Assistance Fund established under this Act shall begin enrolling eligible individuals on or before July 1, 2002.*

SECTION 10. ~~5~~. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Governor include a refundable supplemental appropriation in the fiscal year 2002 State budget sufficient to cover the administrative and operating costs of the Board of the Maryland Health Insurance and Assistance Fund until such time as the Fund receives money from the funding sources provided for in this Act; and

(b) The Board of the Maryland Health Insurance and Assistance Fund shall repay any money appropriated by the Governor in the fiscal year 2002 State budget when money sufficient to repay the appropriation and to cover the ongoing operating expenses of the Board is deposited in the Fund from the funding sources provided for in this Act.

SECTION 11. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission shall continue to offer a differential in hospital rates for qualified carriers under the Substantial, Available, and Affordable Coverage (SAAC) Program until July 1, 2002;

(b) On July 1, 2002, the differential offered under the SAAC Program shall terminate; and

(c) Each carrier that chooses to discontinue its participation in the SAAC Program shall provide written notification to each of its SAAC product enrollees of the existence of the Maryland Health Insurance and Assistance Fund and the availability of coverage under the Fund.

SECTION 12. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 1, 2, 3, and 8 of this Act shall take effect June 1, 2001.

SECTION 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 5 and 6 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2002.