

(2002 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Insurance

Section 14-116(f)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - State Government

Section 2-10A-08

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - State Government

Section 6.5-203(h)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

Preamble

~~WHEREAS, Maryland's Blue Cross Plan was created by statute in 1937 as a charitable and benevolent organization for the benefit and common good of the community as a whole; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Maryland's Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans were consolidated into a single nonprofit corporation in 1985 to create Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, Inc.; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, Inc., merged with Group Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc., in 1997, and CareFirst, Inc., was formed as a holding company; and~~

~~WHEREAS, In 2000, CareFirst, Inc., entered into an affiliation with BlueCross BlueShield Delaware; and~~

~~WHEREAS, CareFirst, Inc., is Maryland's Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan; and~~

~~WHEREAS, CareFirst, as a nonprofit corporation, is a community asset; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The mission of CareFirst is to provide the most affordable and accessible health insurance to Maryland citizens; and~~

~~WHEREAS, There is a national crisis of health insurance affordability and accessibility; and~~

~~WHEREAS, CareFirst is the State's largest health insurer; and~~