

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2004, the exemption under § 10-104 of the Tax – General Article is applicable to managed care organizations and health maintenance organizations that are subject to the insurance premium tax under Title 6 of the Insurance Article.

SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) Any estimated amount reserved by a medical professional liability insurer in payment of a claim as of December 31, 2013, shall be paid from the Rate Stabilization Account to the medical professional liability insurer;

(b) Any portion of the Rate Stabilization Account that exceeds the amount necessary to meet the obligations of the Maryland Medical Professional Liability Insurance Rate Stabilization Fund, including payments made under paragraph (a) of this section, shall revert to the Medical Assistance Program Account as enacted by Section 2 of this Act; and

(c) Any payments from the Rate Stabilization Account to a medical professional liability insurer not used in payment of unresolved claims identified as of December 31, 2013, shall be returned to the State Treasurer for reversion to the General Fund of the State.

SECTION 10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State has placed a high priority on improving patient safety in Maryland hospitals. Recent efforts have included the Maryland Health Care Commission's designation of the Maryland Patient Safety Center with funding support from the Health Services Cost Review Commission, adoption of enhanced patient safety regulations by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and new patient safety criteria for hospital capital expenditures under the certificate of need program. In order to further these efforts, the Health Services Cost Review Commission shall include a reasonable amount of additional funding in hospital approved rates for hospital patient safety related initiatives and infrastructure. ~~The additional funding provided in accordance with this section may not exceed an amount equal to 1% of hospital approved rates. The~~

SECTION 10A. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Health Services Cost Review Commission Maryland Health Care Commission shall work with the Maryland Health Care Commission Health Services Cost Review Commission, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Maryland Patient Safety Center, the Maryland Board of Physicians, and third-party payers to develop systemic patient safety initiatives that extend beyond hospitals and into health care practitioner offices. The agencies shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, on their efforts on or before October 1, 2005.

SECTION 11. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, ~~That~~ That:

(a) Except for a managed care organization authorized by Title 15, Subtitle 1 of the Health – General Article, an insurer, nonprofit health service plan, health maintenance organization, dental plan, organization, or any other person that provides health benefit plans subject to regulation by the State may not reimburse a