FOR the purpose of altering the factors a carrier may use to adjust the community rate for certain-health-benefit plans offered in the small-group market; altering a certain limit on the rate a carrier may charge based on adjustments to the community rate for certain health benefit plans offered in the small group market; authorizing a carrier to offer a discounted-rate discount to a small employer for eligible-employees of the small-employer who are nonsmokers or participate participation in a certain wellness program; requiring the discount to be applied to reduce a certain rate, actuarially justified, offered uniformly to all small employers, and approved by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner; requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission, on or before a certain date, to adopt regulations to require carriers to collect and report certain participation data; requiring the Commission, on or before a certain date, to report to the Governor and certain legislative committees regarding the effect of a certain rate adjustment on participation in certain health benefit plans; providing for the termination of this Act; defining a certain term; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to rates for health benefit plans offered in the small group market.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Insurance Section 15–1201(a) and (d) Annotated Code of Maryland (2006 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Insurance Section 15–1201(r) Annotated Code of Maryland (2006 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Insurance Section 15–1205 Annotated Code of Maryland (2006 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article - Insurance

15-1201.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.