

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other section of this article, whenever liability and amount are reasonably clear, an insurer shall reimburse any person entitled to reimbursement under subsection (a) of this section or any hospital or related institution defined in § 19-301 of the Health - General Article entitled to reimbursement within 30 days of the proper filing of a claim together with all necessary documentation.

(2) (i) If an insurer fails to comply with paragraph (1) of this subsection, the insurer shall pay interest on that amount of the claim that remains unpaid 30 days after the filing of the claim.

(ii) The interest paid under this paragraph shall be at the MONTHLY rate of [1 1/2 percent per month]:

1. 1.5 PERCENT FROM THE 31ST DAY THROUGH THE 60TH DAY;

2. 2 PERCENT FROM THE 61ST DAY THROUGH THE ~~90TH~~ 120TH DAY; AND

3. ~~3~~ 2.5 PERCENT AFTER THE ~~91ST~~ 120TH DAY.

(3) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to claims with respect to which there is a good faith dispute regarding the legitimacy of the claim or the appropriate amount of reimbursement.

~~(4) INTEREST PAID UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED A CLAIM SETTLEMENT EXPENSE FOR THE PURPOSES OF A RATE FILING UNDER THIS ARTICLE.~~

~~(5) TO THE EXTENT CONSISTENT WITH THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974, 29 U.S.C. 1001, ET SEQ, AS AMENDED, THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL APPLY TO AN INSURER ACTING AS A THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~July 1, 1991~~ January 1, 1992.

Approved April 30, 1991.

CHAPTER 215

(House Bill 619)

AN ACT concerning

Creation of a State Debt - Western Maryland College

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$1,900,000 the proceeds to be used as a grant to Western Maryland College to assist in the planning, design, construction, and equipping of a new wing to Lewis Hall of