

a certain penalty against certain health plans and insurers self-executing; altering the exemptions from a certain penalty imposed against certain health plans and insurers; making technical changes; and generally relating to the payment of claims by certain health plans and insurers.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article 48A - Insurance Code

Section 354Z(a), 470U(a), and 477AA(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1986 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 48A - Insurance Code

Section 354Z(b), 470U(b), and 477AA(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1986 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

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

Article 48A - Insurance Code

354Z.

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of a group or individual policy or contract issued by a nonprofit health service plan, or any certificate issued thereunder, of health, sickness, accident, or disability insurance, delivered or issued for delivery within the State, whenever such policy, contract, or certificate provides for reimbursement for any service which is within the lawful scope of practice of a health care provider duly licensed under the Health Occupations Article, the insured, or any other person covered by, or entitled to reimbursement under, the policy, contract, or certificate, shall be entitled to reimbursement for such service. The provisions of this section apply to all such policies, contracts, or certificates issued, renewed, modified, altered, amended, or reissued on or after July 1, 1984.

(b) (1) WITHIN ~~45~~ 30 DAYS OF RECEIPT OF A CLAIM FOR REIMBURSEMENT FROM ANY PERSON UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION OR ANY HOSPITAL OR RELATED INSTITUTION AS DEFINED IN § 19-301 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE, A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN SHALL:

(I) PAY THE CLAIM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION; OR

(II) SEND A "NOTICE OF RECEIPT AND STATUS OF THE CLAIM" THAT STATES THAT THE PLAN:

~~(I) WILL REIMBURSE THE CLAIM AS FILED;~~