

(b) A policy, contract, or certificate subject to this section shall include benefits for inpatient or outpatient expenses arising from orthodontics, oral surgery, and otologic, audiological, and speech/language treatment involved in the management of the birth [defects] DEFECT known as cleft lip [and] OR cleft palate OR BOTH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1998.

Approved April 28, 1998.

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**CHAPTER 121**  
**(House Bill 507)**

AN ACT concerning

**Health Insurance - Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate - Coverage**

FOR the purpose of requiring health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate or both; and generally relating to the provision of coverage for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate or both.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General  
Section 19-706(y)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Insurance  
Section 15-818  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1997 Volume)

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

**Article - Health - General**

19-706.

(Y) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-818 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE SHALL APPLY TO HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

**Article - Insurance**

15-818.

(a) This section applies to: