

Chapter 551

(House Bill 829)

AN ACT concerning

Health Insurance – Provider Panels – Graduate Providers

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a carrier from rejecting a provider who provides community-based health services for an accredited program solely because the provider is a licensed graduate social worker, licensed master social worker, ~~LICENSED GRADUATE ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR, LICENSED GRADUATE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST, LICENSED GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL ART THERAPIST,~~ licensed graduate alcohol and drug counselor, licensed graduate marriage and family therapist, licensed graduate professional art therapist, or licensed graduate professional counselor; and generally relating to health insurance and provider panels.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Insurance
Section 15-112(g)(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Insurance
Section 15-112(g)(2)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

Article – Insurance

15-112.

(g) (1) A provider that seeks to participate on a provider panel of a carrier shall submit an application to the carrier.

(2) (i) Subject to **SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH AND** paragraph (3) of this subsection, the carrier, after reviewing the application, shall accept or reject the provider for participation on the carrier’s provider panel.

(ii) **A CARRIER MAY NOT REJECT A PROVIDER WHO PROVIDES COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH SERVICES FOR A PROGRAM ACCREDITED UNDER**

COMAR 10.63.02 FOR PARTICIPATION ON THE CARRIER’S PROVIDER PANEL SOLELY BECAUSE THE PROVIDER IS:

1. A LICENSED GRADUATE SOCIAL WORKER OR A LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER, AS THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN § 19-101 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE; OR

2. A LICENSED GRADUATE ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR, A LICENSED GRADUATE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST, A LICENSED GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL ART THERAPIST, OR A LICENSED GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR AS THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN § 17-101 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

(III) If the carrier rejects the provider for participation on the carrier’s provider panel, the carrier shall send to the provider at the address listed in the application written notice of the rejection.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.