
By: Delegates Donoghue, Doory, Love, Hixson, Hecht, Kagan, Snodgrass, Bonsack, Harrison, Workman, Conroy, Krysiak, Goldwater, Bobo, Klausmeier, Pendergrass, Stup, Preis, McIntosh, Stocksdale, Kirk, Eckardt, Walkup, Pitkin, DeCarlo, Brinkley, Cummings, Crumlin, Turner, Frank, Edwards, McKee, Poole, Flanagan, Stull, Elliott, Shriver, Fry, and Hurson

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 1996

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Utilization Review of Hospital Services - Minimum Length of Stay - Cesarean Section**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring private review agents and health maintenance

4 organizations to follow certain guidelines with regard to length of hospital stay for

5 services related to maternity and newborn care following a cesarean section.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article - Health - General

8 Section 19-1305.4

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Health - General**

14 19-1305.4.

15 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the criteria and standards

16 used by a private review agent or health maintenance organization in performing

17 utilization review of hospital services related to maternity and newborn care, including

18 length of stay, shall be in accordance with the medical criteria outlined in the most

19 current version of the "Guidelines for Perinatal Care" prepared by the American

20 Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

21 (b) (1) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,

22 A private review agent or health maintenance organization may authorize a shorter length

23 of hospital stay for services related to maternity and newborn care provided the newborn

24 meets the criteria for medical stability in the "Guidelines for Perinatal Care" and the

25 private review agent or health maintenance organization authorizes for the mother and

26 child an initial postpartum home visit which would include the collection of an adequate

27 sample for the hereditary and metabolic newborn screening, when indicated.

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1 (2) FOR A CESAREAN SECTION, A PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT OR HEALTH
2 MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION IN PERFORMING UTILIZATION REVIEW OF
3 HOSPITAL SERVICES RELATED TO MATERNITY AND NEWBORN CARE, INCLUDING
4 LENGTH OF STAY SHALL FOLLOW THE MEDICAL CRITERIA OUTLINED IN THE MOST
5 CURRENT VERSION OF THE "GUIDELINES FOR PERINATAL CARE" PREPARED BY THE
6 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS AND THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
7 OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 1996.