
By: Senator Young

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 1996

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Care Access and Cost Commission - Health Maintenance Organizations - Survey**
3 **of Enrollees**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that the system of evaluation established by the Health
5 Care Access and Cost Commission to comparatively evaluate the quality of care
6 outcomes and performance measures of health maintenance organization benefit
7 plans and services include a method of surveying a certain number of enrollees of
8 health maintenance organizations to determine if certain providers discuss certain
9 information with enrollees.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Health - General
12 Section 19-1508(c)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Health - General**

18 19-1508.

19 (c) (1) The Commission shall:

20 (i) On or before January 1, 1994, establish and implement a system to
21 comparatively evaluate the quality of care outcomes and performance measurements of
22 health maintenance organization benefit plans and services on an objective basis; and

23 (ii) Annually publish the summary findings of the evaluation.

24 (2) The purpose of a comparable performance measurement system
25 established under this section is to assist health maintenance organization benefit plans to
26 improve the quality of care provided by establishing a common set of performance
27 measurements and disseminating the findings of the performance measurements to health
28 maintenance organizations and interested parties.

29 (3) The system[, where]:

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1 (I) WHERE appropriate, shall solicit performance information from
2 enrollees of health maintenance organizations; AND

3 (II) SHALL INCLUDE A METHOD OF SURVEYING AT LEAST 25% OF
4 ENROLLEES OF HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER
5 PROVIDERS PARTICIPATING IN A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION DISCUSS
6 WITH ENROLLEES INFORMATION ABOUT:

7 1. THE BENEFITS, RISKS, AND COSTS OF MEDICAL
8 TREATMENT OPTIONS; AND

9 2. THE PROVIDER'S COMPENSATION AND FINANCIAL
10 INCENTIVE OR BONUS ARRANGEMENT WITH THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE
11 ORGANIZATION.

12 (4) (i) The Commission shall adopt regulations to establish the system of
13 evaluation provided under this section.

14 (ii) Before adopting regulations to implement an evaluation system
15 under this section, the Commission shall consider any recommendations of the quality of
16 care subcommittee of the Group Health Association of America and the National
17 Committee for Quality Assurance.

18 (5) The Commission may contract with a private, nonprofit entity to
19 implement the system required under this subsection provided that the entity is not an
20 insurer.

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