

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 553

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 7, after “regulations;” insert “clarifying the authority of the Health Services Cost Review Commission to establish certain standards;”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 1 through 6, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY adding to

Article - Insurance

Section 15-606

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

(As enacted by Chapter _____ (H.B. 11) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1997)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 19-1502(c)(12)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

(As enacted by Section 1 of this Act)”.

On page 3, strike in their entirety lines 21 through 26, inclusive, and substitute:

“15-606.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “CARRIER” MEANS:

(Over)

(1) AN INSURER;

(2) A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN;

(3) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION;

(4) A DENTAL PLAN ORGANIZATION; OR

(5) ANY OTHER PERSON THAT PROVIDES HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS SUBJECT TO REGULATION BY THE STATE.”;

and in line 30, strike “AN ENTITY” and substitute “A CARRIER”.

On page 4, in line 12, before the semicolon insert “BY A CARRIER”; and after line 27, insert:

“Article - Health - General

19-1502.

(c) The purpose of the Commission is to:

(12) Develop a uniform set of effective benefits to be offered as substantial, available, and affordable coverage in the nongroup market in accordance with [Article 48A, § 490S(a-1) of the Code] § 15-606 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 4, before line 28, insert:

“SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of this Act may not be construed to prevent or restrict the Health Services Cost Review Commission from establishing standards for approving a purchasing differential with regard to hospital rates.”;

strike in their entirety lines 28 and 29, inclusive, and substitute:

“SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 5 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 1997.”;

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FIN

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in line 30, strike “4.” and substitute “5.”; and in lines 30 and 31, strike “, except for Section 1 of this Act,” and substitute “Section 2 of”.