

Unofficial Copy

1997 Regular Session

## EMERGENCY BILL

J4

7lr1819

CF 7lr1818

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**By: Senator Bromwell**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 1997

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 25, 1997

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

**2 Health Maintenance Organizations - Reimbursement for Medical Screening Services**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a provision relating to the abrogation, on a certain date  
4 and under certain circumstances, of a requirement that health maintenance  
5 organizations reimburse a hospital emergency facility and provider for certain  
6 medical screening services rendered; repealing a requirement that the Secretary of  
7 Health and Mental Hygiene work with the Maryland Health Care Access and Cost  
8 Commission to develop a bundled payment for medical screening; making this Act  
9 an emergency measure; requiring the Health Services Cost Review Commission to  
10 conduct a certain study and report by a certain date; providing for the termination  
11 of a provision of this Act; and generally relating to reimbursement for medical  
12 screening services by a health maintenance organization.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
14 Article - Health - General  
15 Section 19-712.5(c)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

18 BY repealing  
19 Chapter 503 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996  
20 Section 5

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

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1           **Article - Health - General**

2 19-712.5.

3           (c) A health maintenance organization shall reimburse a hospital emergency  
4 facility and provider, less any applicable co-payments, for medical screening services  
5 rendered to meet the requirements of the Federal Emergency Medical Treatment and  
6 Active Labor Act.

7           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland  
8 read as follows:

9           **Chapter 503 of the Acts of 1996**

10           [SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of the  
11 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall work with the Maryland Health Care  
12 Access and Cost Commission on development of a bundled payment for medical  
13 screening that meets the requirements of the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and  
14 Active Labor Act. Should a flat fee not take effect on or before March 31, 1997, Section  
15 2 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect. The Secretary of  
16 Health and Mental Hygiene, within 5 days after a bundled payment takes effect, shall  
17 forward notice that the bundled payment has taken effect to the Department of  
18 Legislative Reference. If a bundled payment has not taken effect on or before March 31,  
19 1997, the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, on or before April 5, 1997, shall  
20 forward a notice that the bundled payment has not taken effect by that date to the  
21 Department of Legislative Reference.]

22           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Health Services Cost  
23 Review Commission shall conduct a follow-up to the study conducted in 1996 examining  
24 the effect of the provisions of § 19-712.5(c) of the Health - General Article on the billing  
25 patterns of hospitals and emergency physicians. The Commission shall report the results  
26 of the study by January 31, 1998 to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1312 of the  
27 State Government Article, to the General Assembly.

28           ~~SECTION 2:~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
29 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, has  
30 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
31 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
32 enacted. At the end of July 1, 1998, with no further action required by the General  
33 Assembly, Section 1 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.