

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 556

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 3 through 9, inclusive, and substitute:

“FOR the purpose of requiring the Insurance Commissioner, in consultation with the Maryland Hospital Association, the Maryland Association of Health Maintenance Organizations, the League of Life and Health Insurers, the Medical-Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, and other interested organizations representing health care providers and health insurance carriers, to study hospital utilization review and report to certain legislative committees by a certain date.”;

and strike in their entirety lines 10 through 15.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 17, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

On pages 1 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 18 on page 1 through line 10 on page 4, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) The Insurance Commissioner, in consultation with the Maryland Hospital Association, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of the National Capital Area, the Maryland Association of Health Maintenance Organizations, the League of Life and Health Insurers, the Medical-Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, and other interested organizations representing health care providers and health insurance carriers shall study hospital utilization review, including:

(1) the availability of clear and consistent operating policies and procedures;

(Over)

(2) the use of concurrent, rather than retrospective, review and the availability of personnel needed for concurrent review;

(3) payment for ancillary services, when payment is denied for hospital days;

(4) the appropriate use of industry guidelines in reviewing the unique health care service requirements of individual patients; and

(5) the cooperation of health insurance carriers and health care providers in hospital discharge planning.

(b) The Commissioner shall report the findings and recommendations of the study to the Senate Finance Committee, House Economic Matters Committee, and House Environmental Matters Committee on or before December 1, 1998.”.

On page 4, in line 12, strike “October 1” and substitute “July 1”.