Unofficial Copy C3 1998 Regular Session 8lr0722

By: **Delegate Donoghue**Introduced and read first time: January 16, 1998
Assigned to: Economic Matters

	A BILL ENTITLED				
1 AN ACT concerning					
2 Sma 3					
FOR the purpose of repealing a certain termination date for a provision of law that makes the provisions of the Maryland Health Insurance Reform Act applicable to certain professional employer organizations.					
7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, 8 Article - Insurance 9 Section 15-1201(f) and (m) and 15-1212(a) 10 Annotated Code of Maryland 11 (1997 Volume)					
 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Chapter 420 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1997 Section 3 					
15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:					
17 Article - Insurance					
18 15-1201.					
19 (f) (1) "Hea	alth benefit plan" means:				
20 (i)	a policy or certificate for hospital or medical benefits;				
21 (ii)	a nonprofit health service plan; or				
22 (iii) 23 contract.	a health maintenance organization subscriber or group master				

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	1 (2) "Health benefit plan" includes a policy or certificate for hospital or 2 medical benefits that covers residents of this State who are eligible employees and 3 that is issued through:			
4 5	another state; or	(i)	a multiple employer trust or association located in this State or	
6 7	organization located	(ii) in this Sta	a professional employer organization, coemployer, or other ate or another state that engages in employee leasing.	
8	(3)	"Health	benefit plan" does not include:	
9		(i)	accident-only insurance;	
10		(ii)	fixed indemnity insurance;	
11		(iii)	credit health insurance;	
12		(iv)	Medicare supplement policies;	
13 (v) Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services 14 (CHAMPUS) supplement policies;				
15		(vi)	long-term care insurance;	
16		(vii)	disability income insurance;	
17		(viii)	coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance;	
18		(ix)	workers' compensation or similar insurance;	
19		(x)	disease-specific insurance;	
20		(xi)	automobile medical payment insurance;	
21		(xii)	dental insurance; or	
22		(xiii)	vision insurance.	
23	(m) "Small	employer	" means:	
24	(1)	an emp	loyer described in § 15-1203 of this subtitle; or	
	an entity that leases employees from a professional employer organization, coemployer, or other organization engaged in employee leasing and that otherwise meets the description of § 15-1203 of this subtitle.			
28	15-1212.			
29 30	(a) (1) shall renew a health		as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, a carrier lan at the option of the small employer.	

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1 (2) On renewal, a carrier may not exclude eligible employees or 2 dependents from a health benefit plan.

3 (3) (i) A carrier shall mail a notice of renewal to the small employer at 4 least 30 days before the expiration of a health benefit plan.

5 (ii) The notice of renewal shall include the dates of the renewal 6 period, the health benefit plan rates, and the terms of coverage under the health 7 benefit plan.

8 (4) Policies or certificates for hospital or medical benefits issued through 9 a professional employer organization, coemployer, or other organization under this 10 subtitle may, with the consent of the carrier, have a common renewal date.

Chapter 420 of the Acts of 1997

- 12 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 13 October 1, 1997. [It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of
- 14 September 30, 1998, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
- 15 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.]
- 16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 17 July 1, 1998.