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1998 Regular Session 8lr2526

By: Delegate Pitkin Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998 Assigned to: Economic Matters A BILL ENTITLED 1 AN ACT concerning 2 **Health Insurance - Duration of Pregnancy Benefits** 3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain carriers to establish procedures to notify an enrollee who is in the second trimester of pregnancy of the right of the enrollee 4 5 to continue to receive health care services from the primary care provider of the 6 enrollee after a certain notice of termination of the provider from the carrier's provider panel; requiring a certain primary care provider, after a certain notice 7 8 of termination of the provider from a certain carrier's provider panel, to

continue to furnish health care services to a certain enrollee who is in the second trimester of pregnancy under certain circumstances; and generally relating to

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

the duration of certain health care services.

- 13 Article Insurance
- 14 Section 15-112

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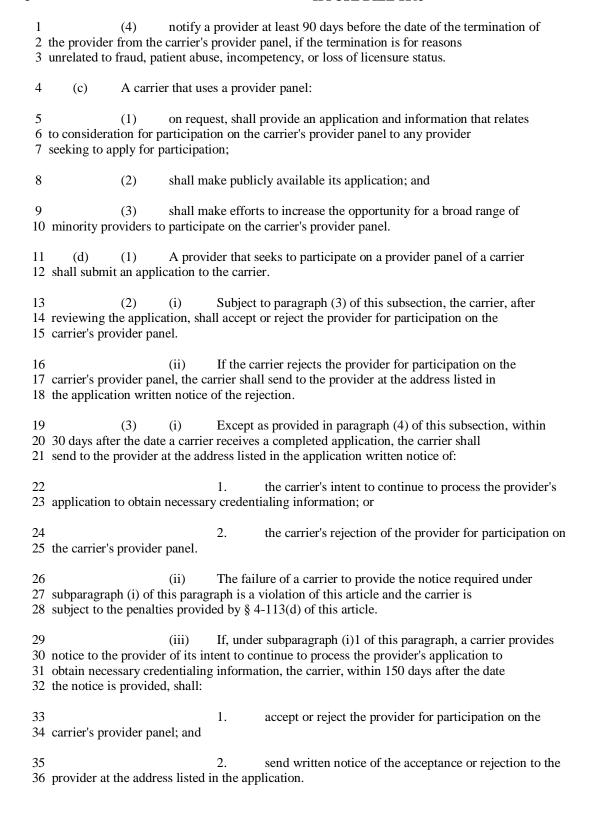
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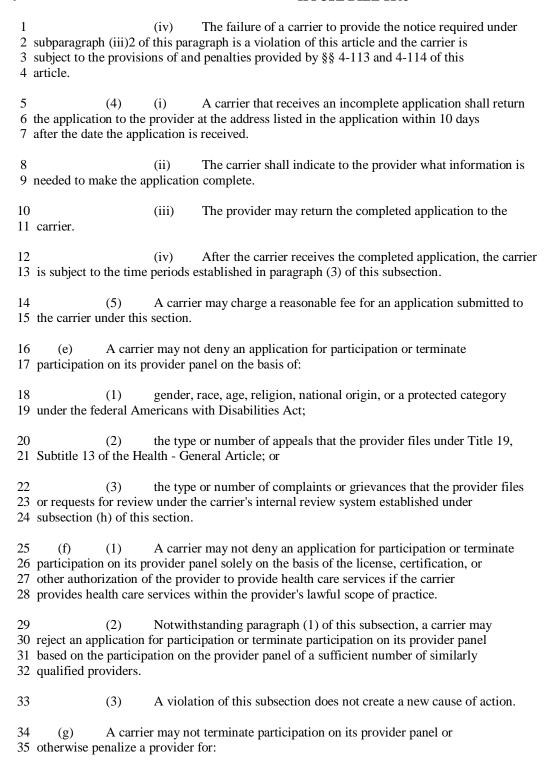
- 15 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 16 (1997 Volume)
- 17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

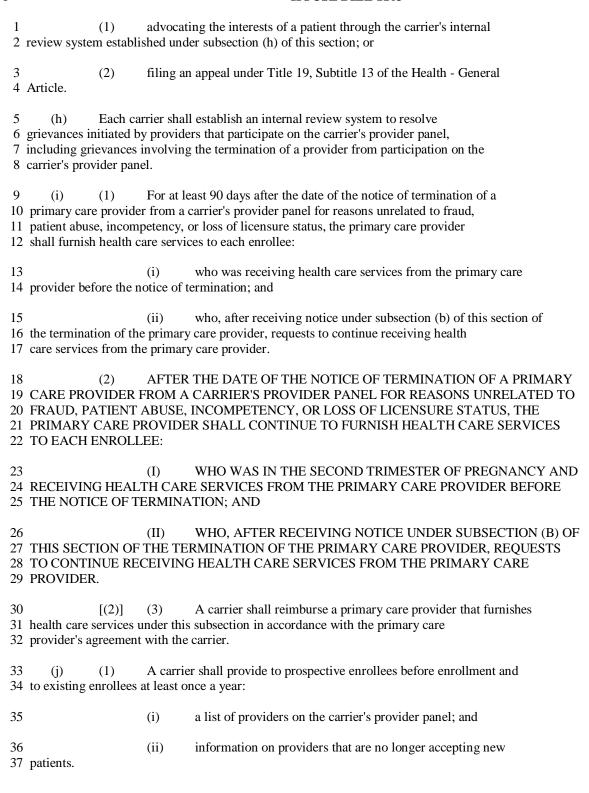
19 Article - Insurance20 15-112.

- 21 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 22 (2) (i) "Carrier" means:
- 23 1. an insurer:
- 24 2. a nonprofit health service plan;
- 25 3. a health maintenance organization;
- 26 4. a dental plan organization; or

1 2	subject to regulation	by the Sta	5. ate.	any other person that provides health benefit plans
3 4	carrier.	(ii)	"Carrier	" includes an entity that arranges a provider panel for a
5 6	(3) carrier.	"Enrolle	ee" means	s a person entitled to health care benefits from a
	(4) practitioners license services.			s a health care practitioner or group of health care wise authorized by law to provide health care
	\ /			er panel" means the providers that contract with a o the carrier's enrollees under the carrier's
			y by cont	er panel" does not include an arrangement in which any racting with the carrier to provide health care rate.
16	(b) A carr	ier that use	es a provio	der panel shall establish procedures to:
17 18	(1) accordance with the		applicatio	ns for participation on the carrier's provider panel in
19	(2)	notify a	n enrollee	e of:
20 21		(i) was furnish		ination from the carrier's provider panel of the primary n care services to the enrollee; and
24 25	health care services the date of the notice	ce of termi	nation of terminati	the right of the enrollee, on request, to continue to receive primary care provider for up to 90 days after the enrollee's primary care provider from the on was for reasons unrelated to fraud, patient re status; AND
29 30 31 32	THE SECOND TR HEALTH CARE S THE DATE OF TH PROVIDER FROM	ERVICES IE NOTIC I THE CA LATED TO	FROM T E OF TEI RRIER'S	THE RIGHT OF THE ENROLLEE, IF THE ENROLLEE IS IN GNANCY, ON REQUEST, TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE ENROLLEE'S PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER AFTER RMINATION OF THE ENROLLEE'S PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER PANEL, IF THE TERMINATION WAS FOR D, PATIENT ABUSE, INCOMPETENCY, OR LOSS OF
34 35	(3) termination of a spe			re providers on the carrier's provider panel of the ces provider; and







16 October 1, 1998.

## **HOUSE BILL 1163**

1 (2) The information provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection 2 shall be updated at least once a year. 3 A policy, certificate, or other evidence of coverage shall: (3) 4 indicate clearly the office in the administration that is 5 responsible for receiving and responding to complaints from enrollees about carriers; 6 and 7 (ii) include the telephone number of the office and the procedure for 8 filing a complaint. 9 (k) The Commissioner: 10 shall adopt regulations that relate to the procedures that carriers 11 must use to process applications for participation on a provider panel; and in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, 12 13 shall adopt strategies to assist carriers in maximizing the opportunity for a broad 14 range of minority providers to participate in the delivery of health care services. SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 15