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By: **Delegates Goldwater, Nathan-Pulliam, Eckardt, and Walkup**  
Introduced and read first time: February 16, 1998  
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **School-Based Health Centers - Nurse Practitioners - Reimbursement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a health maintenance organization or a managed care  
4 organization that contracts with a school-based health center to reimburse a  
5 school-based health center that uses a certified nurse practitioner as a primary  
6 care provider under certain circumstances; requiring the State Department of  
7 Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
8 and the Office of Children, Youth, and Families to submit a certain report to  
9 certain legislative committees by a certain date; and generally relating to  
10 certain reimbursement for certain school-based health centers.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article - Education  
13 Section 7-420  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Education**

19 7-420.

20 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
21 INDICATED.

22 (2) "CERTIFIED NURSE PRACTITIONER" MEANS A LICENSED  
23 REGISTERED NURSE WHO HAS:

24 (I) COMPLETED A NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM APPROVED BY  
25 THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING; AND

26 (II) PASSED AN EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF  
27 NURSING.

1 (3) "HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION" HAS THE MEANING  
2 STATED IN § 19-701(F) OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

3 (4) "MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §  
4 15-101(E) OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

5 (5) "SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER" MEANS A PROGRAM PROVIDER  
6 THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE DESIGNATES AS A  
7 SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS THAT THE  
8 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE ADOPTS UNDER TITLE 15 OF THE  
9 HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

10 (B) IF A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION OR A MANAGED CARE  
11 ORGANIZATION CONTRACTS WITH A SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER, THE HEALTH  
12 MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION OR MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION SHALL  
13 REIMBURSE A SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER THAT USES A CERTIFIED NURSE  
14 PRACTITIONER AS A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER, IF THE CERTIFIED NURSE  
15 PRACTITIONER HAS A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH A PHYSICIAN WHO IS AVAILABLE  
16 TO THE CERTIFIED NURSE PRACTITIONER BY TELEPHONE.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of  
18 Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and  
19 the Office of Children, Youth, and Families, by January 1, 1999, shall submit a report  
20 to the Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House  
21 Environmental Matters Committee concerning:

22 (1) The number of health maintenance organizations and managed care  
23 organizations that have contracted with school-based health centers; and

24 (2) The policies of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
25 concerning the reimbursement of school-based health centers and nurse practitioners  
26 by health maintenance organizations and managed care organizations.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
28 July 1, 1998.