A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION;

A DENTAL PLAN ORGANIZATION; OR

Unofficial Copy C3

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1998 Regular Session 8lr1246

By: Senator Bromwell Introduced and read first time: February 6, 1998 Assigned to: Finance A BILL ENTITLED 1 AN ACT concerning 2 **Insurance - Carriers - Uniform Credentialing Forms** 3 FOR the purpose of requiring a carrier to make available a certain form to a health care provider that is to be credentialed or recredentialed by that carrier; 4 5 requiring a carrier to accept a certain form as the application for a health care 6 provider to become credentialed or recredentialed by the carrier for the carrier's 7 provider panel; providing a certain penalty for a violation of this Act; defining 8 certain terms; and generally relating to the use of a uniform credentialing form 9 by a carrier. 10 BY adding to Article - Insurance 11 12 Section 15-124 Annotated Code of Maryland 13 14 (1997 Volume) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 15 16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: 17 **Article - Insurance** 18 15-124. IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS 19 (A) (1) 20 INDICATED. 21 (2) "CARRIER" MEANS: (I) 22 1. AN INSURER; A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN; 23 2.

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- 1 5. ANY OTHER PERSON THAT PROVIDES HEALTH BENEFIT 2 PLANS SUBJECT TO REGULATION BY THE STATE.
- 3 (II) "CARRIER" INCLUDES AN ENTITY THAT ARRANGES A PROVIDER 4 PANEL FOR A CARRIER.
- 5 (3) "HEALTH CARE PROVIDER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS
- 6 LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH
- 7 OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES.
- 8 (4) "PROVIDER PANEL" MEANS THE PROVIDERS THAT CONTRACT WITH A
- 9 CARRIER TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE CARRIER'S ENROLLEES
- 10 UNDER THE CARRIER'S HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN.
- 11 (5) "UNIFORM CREDENTIALING FORM" MEANS THE CURRENT
- 12 APPLICATION PREPARED BY THE MEDICAL SOCIETY CREDENTIALS VERIFICATION
- 13 ORGANIZATIONS OF AMERICA FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREDENTIALING AND
- 14 RECREDENTIALING A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER BY A CARRIER.
- 15 (B) (1) A CARRIER SHALL MAKE THE UNIFORM CREDENTIALING FORM
- 16 AVAILABLE TO ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THAT IS TO BE CREDENTIALED OR
- 17 RECREDENTIALED BY THAT CARRIER.
- 18 (2) A CARRIER SHALL ACCEPT THE UNIFORM CREDENTIALING FORM AS
- 19 THE APPLICATION FOR A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER TO BECOME CREDENTIALED OR
- 20 RECREDENTIALED BY THE CARRIER FOR THE CARRIER'S PROVIDER PANEL.
- 21 (C) THE COMMISSIONER MAY IMPOSE A PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$500
- 22 AGAINST ANY CARRIER FOR EACH VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.
- 23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 24 October 1, 1998.