

SENATE BILL 545

Unofficial Copy
C5

1998 Regular Session
8lr2367
CF HB 507

By: ~~Senator~~ **Senators Conway, Bromwell, Dorman, Astle, Della, Derr, Hafer,
Kelley, Madden, Roesser, Teitelbaum, and Trotter**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 1998

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 1998

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance - Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate - Coverage**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring health maintenance organizations to provide coverage

4 for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate or both; and generally relating to the

5 provision of coverage for the treatment of cleft lip or cleft palate or both.

6 BY adding to

7 Article - Health - General

8 Section 19-706(y)

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

12 Article - Insurance

13 Section 15-818

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (1997 Volume)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1

Article - Health - General

2 19-706.

3 (Y) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-818 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE SHALL APPLY
4 TO HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

5

Article - Insurance

6 15-818.

7 (a) This section applies to:

8 (1) each individual or group hospital or major medical insurance policy
9 or certificate that is delivered or issued for delivery in the State by an insurer and is
10 written on an expense-incurred basis; [and]

11 (2) each individual or group medical or major medical contract, policy, or
12 certificate that is delivered or issued for delivery in the State by a nonprofit health
13 service plan; AND

14 (3) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOSPITAL,
15 MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER CONTRACTS
16 THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

17 (b) A policy, contract, or certificate subject to this section shall include benefits
18 for inpatient or outpatient expenses arising from orthodontics, oral surgery, and
19 otologic, audiological, and speech/language treatment involved in the management of
20 the birth [defects] DEFECT known as cleft lip [and] OR cleft palate OR BOTH.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 1998.