

SENATE BILL 729

Unofficial Copy  
F1

1998 Regular Session  
8r2542  
CF 8r2541

---

By: **Senators Hollinger and Dorman**  
Introduced and read first time: February 19, 1998  
Assigned to: Rules

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that a health maintenance organization or a managed  
4 care organization shall reimburse a school-based health center that uses a  
5 physician or licensed nurse practitioner as a primary care provider under  
6 certain circumstances; requiring the State Department of Education, in  
7 consultation with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Office  
8 for Children, Youth, and Families to submit a certain report to certain  
9 legislative committees by a certain date; and generally relating to certain  
10 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) "LICENSED NURSE PRACTITIONER" MEANS A LICENSED REGISTERED  
23 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) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION OR A MANAGED CARE  
11 ORGANIZATION OPERATING IN THE STATE MUST REIMBURSE A RECOGNIZED  
12 SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER WHEN A PATIENT IS SELF-REFERRED FOR:

13 (1) AT LEAST FOUR ACUTE CARE VISITS AND FOUR FOLLOW-UP VISITS  
14 PER SEMESTER; AND

15 (2) AN ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE VISIT EQUIVALENT TO  
16 AN EPSDT VISIT.

17 (C) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION OR MANAGED CARE  
18 ORGANIZATION MUST REIMBURSE A SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER FOR  
19 SERVICES UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION AS LONG AS THE  
20 SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER USES A PHYSICIAN OR LICENSED NURSE  
21 PRACTITIONER AS A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of  
23 Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and  
24 the Office for Children, Youth, and Families, by January 1, 1999, shall submit a  
25 report to the Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House  
26 Environmental Matters Committee concerning:

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

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

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