

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 43

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, after "Provisions" insert "- Task Force to Study the Non-Group Health Insurance Market"; in line 14, after "contingency;" insert "establishing a Task Force to Study the Non-Group Health Insurance Market; establishing the membership of the Task Force; establishing duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to make certain recommendations and to take into account and examine certain issues; providing that the Maryland Insurance Administration and the Maryland Health Care Access and Cost Commission shall provide staff support for the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a preliminary report and a final report on its findings and recommendations on or before certain dates; providing that the implementation of a certain substantial, available, and affordable coverage product shall be suspended until the Task Force issues a certain preliminary report;"; and in line 18, after "provisions" insert "and the non-group health insurance market".

On page 2, in line 28, after "Section" insert "15-126 and"; and in line 30, strike "Replacement".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 10, after line 34, insert:

"SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Insurance

15-126.

(A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE NON-GROUP HEALTH

(Over)

INSURANCE MARKET.

(B) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

(1) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

(2) A MEMBER OF THE SENATE, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

(3) THE COMMISSIONER;

(4) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND COST COMMISSION;

(5) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION;

(6) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN INSURER THAT MARKETS INDIVIDUAL POLICIES IN THE STATE, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER;

(7) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN INSURER THAT MARKETS SMALL GROUP POLICIES IN THE STATE, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER;

(8) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION THAT MARKETS INDIVIDUAL POLICIES IN THE STATE, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER;

(9) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION THAT MARKETS SMALL GROUP POLICIES IN THE STATE, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER;

(10) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF LIFE UNDERWRITERS OR THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH UNDERWRITERS, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER;

(11) A CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE WITH A CARRIER OPERATING IN THE INDIVIDUAL MARKET, APPOINTED

BY THE COMMISSIONER;

(12) A REPRESENTATIVE OF MHA: THE ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER; AND

(13) TWO MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC WITH EXPERIENCE OR KNOWLEDGE OF HEALTH INSURANCE, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

(C) THE TASK FORCE SHALL BE JOINTLY CHAIRED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND COST COMMISSION.

(D) THE TASK FORCE SHALL REVIEW AND STUDY THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NON-GROUP MARKET, INCLUDING:

(1) AN ANALYSIS AND SURVEY OF NON-GROUP PRODUCTS AVAILABLE IN THE STATE;

(2) THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THOSE INSURED IN THE NON-GROUP MARKET;

(3) THE AFFORDABILITY OF NON-GROUP PRODUCTS AND PRICING CONSIDERATIONS IN THE NON-GROUP MARKET; AND

(4) TRENDS IN PREMIUM COSTS FOR NON-GROUP PRODUCTS.

(E) BASED ON ITS ANALYSIS OF THE NON-GROUP MARKET, THE TASK FORCE SHALL RECOMMEND WHETHER CHANGES SHOULD BE MADE TO STATE LAWS GOVERNING THE NON-GROUP MARKET, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT AND EXAMINING ISSUES RELATED TO:

(1) THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1997;

(Over)

(2) THE SUBSTANTIAL, AVAILABLE, AND AFFORDABLE COVERAGE PROGRAM;

(3) THE SMALL GROUP MARKET PLAN;

(4) HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR SELF-EMPLOYED AND PART-TIME INDIVIDUALS;

(5) SUPPLEMENTAL POLICIES, INCLUDING STANDARDIZED AND PRESTANDARDIZED PRODUCTS, FOR MEDICARE;

(6) THE CREATION OF HIGH-RISK POOLS;

(7) CROSS-SUBSIDIZATION BETWEEN GROUP AND NON-GROUP PRODUCTS; AND

(8) PROVIDING INDIVIDUALS WITH INSURANCE THROUGH A LIST BILLING MECHANISM PROVIDED ON A PRETAX DOLLAR BASIS.

(F) A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE:

(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR SERVICE ON THE TASK FORCE; BUT

(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

(G) THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE MARYLAND HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND COST COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE.

(H) THE TASK FORCE SHALL SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE

DECEMBER 15, 1999 AND A FINAL REPORT IN THE SAME MANNER ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15, 2000.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the implementation of a substantial, available, and affordable coverage product in a form other than that which was required or approved on July 1, 1998 shall be suspended until after the Task Force to Study the Non-Group Health Insurance Market, established under § 15-126 of the Insurance Article, as enacted by Section 3 of this Act, issues the preliminary report required under § 15-126.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 11, in lines 1, 5, and 10, strike “3.”, “4.”, and “5.”, respectively, and substitute “5.”, “6.”, and “8.”, respectively; after line 9, insert:

“SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 3 and 4 of this Act shall take effect June 1, 1999.”;

and in line 10, strike “Section 4” and substitute “Sections 6 and 7”.