

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 641 (Senator Bromwell)

Finance

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**Health Insurance - Carriers and Credentialing Intermediaries -  
Uniform Credentialing Form**

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This bill requires insurers, nonprofit health service plans, HMOs, and dental plan organizations (carriers) to use a uniform credentialing form designated by the Insurance Commissioner as the sole application for a health care provider to become credentialed or recredentialed for the carrier's provider panel. The bill allows the Insurance Commissioner to impose a penalty not to exceed \$500 against any carrier or its credentialing intermediary for each violation of this provision. The Insurance Commissioner must promulgate regulations that adopt a uniform credentialing form and require its use by carriers. The Commissioner must consider the use of an electronic format for the uniform credentialing form.

This bill is effective January 1, 2000.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The promulgation of regulations could be handled with existing Maryland Insurance Administration resources. General fund revenues may increase by an indeterminate minimal amount as a result of the penalty provisions.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal. Administrative expenses for providers would decrease as a result of using one standardized form to apply for credentialing with a carrier.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Insurance Administration, Department of Budget and Management (Employee Benefits Division), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**

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First Reader - February 16, 1999

Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 26, 1999

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