

HOUSE BILL 1016

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2000 Regular Session
0lr1694

By: ~~Delegate Hurson~~ **Delegates Hurson and Brown**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 22, 2000

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance - Discrimination - Specified Diseases or Diagnoses**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and
4 health maintenance organizations from making benefits for treatment of a
5 certain disease or diagnosis subject to different copayment amounts,
6 coinsurance, deductibles, or certain maximum limits than those that apply to all
7 other diseases unless otherwise provided by law; and generally relating to
8 discrimination in health insurance by insurers, nonprofit health service plans,
9 and health maintenance organizations.

10 BY adding to

11 Article - Insurance

12 Section 27-913

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (1997 Volume and 1999 Supplement)

15 BY adding to

16 Article - Health - General

17 Section 19-706(nn)

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

20 **Preamble**

21 ~~WHEREAS, insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance~~
22 ~~organizations may attempt in a discriminatory manner to make benefits for~~

~~1 treatment of specified diseases or diagnoses subject to different copayments,
2 coinsurance, deductibles, and annual and lifetime maximum limits; and~~

~~3 WHEREAS, The practice of the Maryland Insurance Administration is not to
4 discriminate against specified diseases or diagnoses under health insurance policies
5 and contracts issued or delivered in the State; and~~

~~6 WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Act to codify existing practice of the Maryland
7 Insurance Administration regarding discrimination against specified diseases and
8 diagnoses; now, therefore,~~

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
10 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

11 **Article - Insurance**

12 27-913.

13 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

14 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT PROVIDE
15 HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS ON AN
16 EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR CONTRACTS
17 THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

18 (2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOSPITAL,
19 MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER CONTRACTS
20 THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

21 (B) UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS
22 SECTION MAY NOT MAKE BENEFITS UNDER A POLICY OR CONTRACT ISSUED OR
23 DELIVERED BY THE ENTITY IN THE STATE FOR THE TREATMENT OF A SPECIFIED
24 DISEASE OR DIAGNOSIS SUBJECT TO DIFFERENT COPAYMENT AMOUNTS,
25 COINSURANCE, DEDUCTIBLES, ANNUAL MAXIMUM LIMITS, OR LIFETIME MAXIMUM
26 LIMITS THAN THOSE THAT APPLY TO ALL OTHER DISEASES COVERED UNDER THE
27 POLICY OR CONTRACT.

28 **Article - Health - General**

29 19-706.

30 (NN) THE PROVISIONS OF § 27-913 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO
31 HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 October 1, 2000.

