

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 627

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, before “Medical” insert “Maryland”; in the same line, after “Assistance” insert “Program”; in the same line, after “and” insert “Maryland”; and in the same line, strike “Programs” and substitute “Program”.

On page 1, strike beginning with “providing” in line 4 down through “Programs;” in line 6; strike beginning with “adopt” in line 6 down through “codes” in line 11 and substitute “establish a certain process to annually set fee-for-service reimbursement rates for certain programs in a manner that ensures participation of providers, taking certain systems into consideration; requiring the Department to submit a certain report to the Governor and to certain standing committees of the General Assembly in a certain manner by a certain date”; in line 12, before “Medical” insert “Maryland”; in the same line, after “Assistance” insert “Program”; in the same line, after “and” insert “Maryland”; and in line 13, strike “Programs” and substitute “Program”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 4, strike beginning with line 14 on page 1 through line 23 on page 4, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 4, after line 23 insert:

“SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

That:

(a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall:

(1) establish a process to annually set the fee-for-service reimbursement rates for

(Over)

the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health Program in a manner that ensures participation of providers; and

(2) in developing the process required under item (1) of this subsection, consider:

(i) a reimbursement system that reflects reimbursement fee-for-service rates paid in the community as well as annual medical inflation; or

(ii) the Resource Based Relative Value Scale system used in the federal Medicare program.

(b) On or before September 1, 2001, the Department shall submit a report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Environmental Matters Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee on:

(1) its progress in complying with subsection (a) of this section;

(2) an analysis of the fee-for-service reimbursement rates paid in other states and how those rates compare with those in Maryland;

(3) its schedule for bringing Maryland's fee-for-service reimbursement rates to a level that assures access to care; and

(4) an analysis on the estimated costs of implementing the schedule and any proposed changes to the fee-for-service reimbursement rates for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health Program."