

HOUSE BILL 488

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C3  
SB 485/00 - FIN

2001 Regular Session  
11r1744  
CF 11r1605

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By: **Delegate McHale**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance - Patient Rights - The No More Runaround Act of 2001**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that certain health insurance carriers may not prohibit  
4 a provider on the carrier's provider panel from rendering certain health care  
5 services to enrollees; requiring certain health insurance carriers to reimburse a  
6 provider on the carrier's provider panel for certain health care services rendered  
7 to enrollees; and generally relating to provider panels of health insurance  
8 carriers.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Insurance  
11 Section 15-112(f)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1997 Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Insurance**

17 15-112.

18 (f) (1) A carrier may not deny an application for participation or terminate  
19 participation on its provider panel solely on the basis of the license, certification, or  
20 other authorization of the provider to provide health care services if the carrier  
21 provides health care services within the provider's lawful scope of practice.

22 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection, a carrier may  
23 reject an application for participation or terminate participation on its provider panel  
24 based on the participation on the provider panel of a sufficient number of similarly  
25 qualified providers.

26 (3) A CARRIER MAY NOT PROHIBIT OR REFUSE TO REIMBURSE A  
27 PROVIDER ON THE CARRIER'S PROVIDER PANEL FROM RENDERING TO AN ENROLLEE

1 A COVERED HEALTH CARE SERVICE THAT IS WITHIN THE PROVIDER'S LAWFUL  
2 SCOPE OF PRACTICE.

3            [(3)]    (4)        A violation of this subsection does not create a new cause of  
4 action.

5        SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
6 October 1, 2001.