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By: **Delegates Rudolph, Hecht, and Riley**  
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2002  
Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Health Insurance - Coverage for Vaccinations Against Meningococcal**  
3                                   **Disease**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and  
5 health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for vaccinations against  
6 meningococcal disease for insureds and enrollees who are required under  
7 certain provisions of law to be vaccinated against the disease; providing for the  
8 application of this Act; and generally relating to coverage for vaccinations  
9 against meningococcal disease under health insurance policies, plans, and  
10 contracts.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article - Insurance  
13 Section 15-840  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1997 Volume and 2001 Supplement)

16 BY adding to  
17 Article - Health - General  
18 Section 19-706(ww)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

23                                   **Article - Insurance**

24 15-840.

25 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

26 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT PROVIDE  
27 HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS ON AN

1 EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR CONTRACTS  
2 THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

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

6 (B) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR  
7 VACCINATIONS AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE FOR AN INSURED OR ENROLLEE  
8 WHO IS REQUIRED TO BE VACCINATED AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE UNDER §  
9 18-102 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

10 **Article - Health - General**

11 19-706.

12 (WW) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-840 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO  
13 HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to  
15 all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the  
16 State on or after October 1, 2002.

17 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
18 effect October 1, 2002.