

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**Revised**

Senate Bill 672

(Senator Teitelbaum)

Finance

Health and Government Operations

Health Insurance - Provider Panels - Lists of Providers

This bill changes certain provisions that require a health insurer, nonprofit health service plan, HMO, or dental plan organization (carrier) to provide provider information to prospective and new enrollees. It requires a carrier to make available to prospective enrollees on the Internet and, upon the request of a prospective enrollee, in printed form: (1) a list of providers on the carrier's provider panel; and (2) information on providers that are no longer accepting new patients. A carrier must notify each enrollee at the time of initial enrollment and renewal on how to obtain provider information on the Internet and in printed form. Information provided on the Internet must be updated at least once every 15 days.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill pertains exclusively to private sector activities.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A carrier must provide to an enrollee at the time of initial enrollment: (1) a *printed* list of providers on the carrier's provider panel; and (2) *printed* information on providers that are no longer accepting new patients. A carrier must make available to prospective enrollees, and notify each existing enrollee at the time of renewal, about how to obtain this information on the Internet *and* in printed form.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2003
lc/jr Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 10, 2003

Analysis by: Susan D. John

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510