
By: **Delegates Morhaim and Elliott**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2004

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance - Pharmacies - Electronic Reimbursement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and
4 health maintenance organizations to reimburse a pharmacy electronically under
5 certain circumstances; and generally relating to electronic claim reimbursement
6 for pharmacies.

7 BY adding to
8 Article - Health - General
9 Section 19-706(zz)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

12 BY adding to
13 Article - Insurance
14 Section 15-131
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

19 **Article - Health - General**

20 19-706.

21 (ZZ) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-131 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO
22 HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

23 **Article - Insurance**

24 15-131.

25 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

1 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT PROVIDE,
2 DIRECTLY OR THROUGH A PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER, COVERAGE FOR
3 PRESCRIPTION DRUGS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR CONTRACTS THAT
4 ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

5 (2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE, DIRECTLY
6 OR THROUGH A PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER, COVERAGE FOR PRESCRIPTION
7 DRUGS UNDER CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

8 (B) IF AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION REQUIRES A PHARMACY TO
9 SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR PAYMENT ELECTRONICALLY, THEN THE PHARMACY MAY
10 CHOOSE TO BE REIMBURSED ELECTRONICALLY, AND IN THAT EVENT THE ENTITY
11 SHALL REIMBURSE THE PHARMACY ELECTRONICALLY.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2004.