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By: **Senator Hollinger**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2004

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Finance

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **School-Based Health Centers - Physician Assistants**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt  
4 regulations to require certain managed care organizations to reimburse  
5 physician assistants who provide services in certain school-based health clinics;  
6 and generally relating to school-based health centers and physician assistants.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article - Health - General  
9 Section 15-103(a)(1), (b)(1), and (b)(9)(xv)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article - Health - General  
14 Section 15-103(b)(19)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2000 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 15-103.

21 (a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance  
22 Program.

23 (b) (1) As permitted by federal law or waiver, the Secretary may establish a  
24 program under which Program recipients are required to enroll in managed care  
25 organizations.

26 (9) Each managed care organization shall:

1 (xv) Upon provision of information specified by the Department  
2 under paragraph (19) of this subsection, pay school-based clinics for services provided  
3 to the managed care organization's enrollees.

4 (19) (i) School-based clinics and managed care organizations shall  
5 collaborate to provide continuity of care to enrollees.

6 (ii) School-based clinics shall be defined by the Department in  
7 consultation with the State Department of Education.

8 (iii) Each managed care organization shall require a school-based  
9 clinic to provide to the managed care organization certain information, as specified by  
10 the Department, about an encounter with an enrollee of the managed care  
11 organization prior to paying the school-based clinic.

12 (iv) Upon receipt of information specified by the Department, the  
13 managed care organization shall pay, at Medicaid-established rates, school-based  
14 clinics for covered services provided to enrollees of the managed care organization.

15 (V) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT  
16 REQUIRE THE MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION TO REIMBURSE PHYSICIAN  
17 ASSISTANTS FOR PROVIDING SERVICES AT A SCHOOL-BASED CLINIC TO ENROLLEES  
18 OF THE MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION.

19 [(v)] (VI) The Department shall work with managed care  
20 organizations and school-based clinics to develop collaboration standards, guidelines,  
21 and a process to assure that the services provided are covered and medically  
22 appropriate and that the process provides for timely notification among the parties.

23 [(vi)] (VII) Each managed care organization shall maintain records  
24 of all health care services:

- 25 1. Provided to its enrollees by school-based clinics; and  
26 2. For which the managed care organization has been billed.

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