

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 552 (Delegate Hammen)
Health and Government Operations

Private Review Agents - Uniform Treatment Plan Form - Regulations

This bill requires the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) to adopt regulations specifying the circumstances under which a health care provider may voluntarily use a carrier's proprietary treatment form instead of the uniform treatment form developed by MIA.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MIA could revise relevant regulations with existing budgeted resources. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A health insurer, nonprofit health service plan, or HMO (carrier) may use a private review agent to conduct utilization review of medical services rendered to determine the medical necessity of a particular service. If a private review agent requires a health care provider to submit a treatment plan to enable the private review agent to conduct utilization review of services for the treatment of a mental illness, emotional disorder, or a drug or alcohol abuse disorder, the private review agent must use the uniform treatment plan form developed by MIA.

A private review agent must accept the uniform treatment plan form as a properly submitted treatment plan form and may not require a health care provider to: (1) modify

the uniform treatment plan form or its content; or (2) submit additional treatment plan forms. A private review agent may not modify the uniform treatment plan form in any manner.

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 - February 13, 2004
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