
By: **Delegate Dumais**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2005

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance - Small Group Market - Open Enrollment Period for**
3 **Self-Insured Individuals**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the annual open enrollment period that a carrier in the
5 small group health insurance market must establish for self-employed
6 individuals; and generally relating to the small group health insurance market.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Insurance
9 Section 15-1210(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Insurance**

15 15-1210.

16 (a) A carrier that offers coverage to a small employer shall:

17 (1) offer coverage to all of its eligible employees and all of their eligible
18 dependents;

19 (2) at the election of the small employer, offer coverage to all of its
20 part-time employees who have a normal workweek of at least 17 1/2 but less than 30
21 hours per week and have been continuously employed for at least 4 consecutive
22 months;

23 (3) at the election of the small employer, offer coverage to all of its
24 employees who are covered under another public or private plan of health insurance
25 or another health benefit arrangement; and

26 (4) establish an annual open enrollment period for self-employed
27 individuals for at least [30] 60 consecutive days in each 12-month period.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2005.