
By: **Senator Klausmeier**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2005

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2005

CHAPTER_____

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 and
5 provide appropriate payment data electronically under certain circumstances;
6 prohibiting the imposition of a certain processing fee; providing for a delayed
7 effective date; and generally relating to electronic claim reimbursement for
8 pharmacies.

9 BY adding to

10 Article - Health - General

11 Section 19-706(ddd)

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

14 BY adding to

15 Article - Insurance

16 Section 15-131

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1

Article - Health - General

2 19-706.

3 (DDD) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-131 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO
4 HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

5

Article - Insurance

6 15-131.

7 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

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

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

15 (B) IF AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION REQUIRES A PHARMACY TO
16 SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR PAYMENT ELECTRONICALLY, THEN THE PHARMACY OR
17 DESIGNATED AGENT MAY CHOOSE TO BE REIMBURSED ELECTRONICALLY, AND IN
18 THAT EVENT THE ENTITY SHALL REIMBURSE THE PHARMACY ELECTRONICALLY,
19 AND SHALL PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE PAYMENT DATA ELECTRONICALLY.

20 (C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY NOT IMPOSE A PROCESSING
21 FEE FOR THE ELECTRONIC REIMBURSEMENT OR FOR PROVIDING PAYMENT DATA
22 ELECTRONICALLY.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, ~~2005~~ 2006.