
By: **Senator Hafer**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2006

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance - Nonemergency Helicopter Transportation - Balance**
3 **Billing Prohibited**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a provider of nonemergency helicopter transportation
5 from billing or seeking reimbursement from an insured for an amount in excess
6 of the amount paid by a certain insurer, nonprofit health service plan, or health
7 maintenance organization under certain circumstances; and generally relating
8 to balance billing for nonemergency helicopter transportation under health
9 insurance.

10 BY adding to

11 Article - Health - General
12 Section 19-706(hhh)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

15 BY adding to

16 Article - Insurance
17 Section 15-132
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

22 **Article - Health - General**

23 19-706.

24 (HHH) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-132 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO
25 HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

1

Article - Insurance

2 15-132.

3 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

4 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT PROVIDE
5 HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER
6 HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

7 (2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOSPITAL,
8 MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER CONTRACTS
9 THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

10 (B) IF AN INSURED INDIVIDUAL IS TRANSPORTED BETWEEN HOSPITALS BY
11 HELICOPTER IN ORDER TO RECEIVE COVERED SERVICES THAT ARE NOT IN
12 RESPONSE TO AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL CONDITION, THE HELICOPTER
13 TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER MAY NOT BILL OR SEEK REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE
14 INSURED FOR ANY AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF THE AMOUNT PAID BY THE ENTITY
15 SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION FOR THE HELICOPTER TRANSPORTATION REGARDLESS
16 OF WHETHER THE PROVIDER IS UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE ENTITY SUBJECT TO
17 THIS SECTION.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2006.