
By: **Senator Astle**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2006

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Maintenance Organizations - Payment of Noncontracting Health**
3 **Care Providers**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the rate at which a health maintenance organization
5 must pay certain health care providers not under written contract with the
6 health maintenance organization for certain services rendered by the health
7 care providers; requiring a health maintenance organization to file certain
8 information and a certain affidavit with the Maryland Insurance
9 Administration on or before a certain date each year; requiring a health
10 maintenance organization to notify the Maryland Insurance Commissioner of
11 certain rate information; and generally relating to the reimbursement of
12 noncontracting health care providers by health maintenance organizations.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Health - General
15 Section 19-710.1(b)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

20 **Article - Health - General**

21 19-710.1.

22 (b) (1) In addition to any other provisions of this subtitle, for a covered
23 service rendered to an enrollee of a health maintenance organization by a health care
24 provider not under written contract with the health maintenance organization, the
25 health maintenance organization or its agent:

26 (i) Shall pay the health care provider within 30 days after the
27 receipt of a claim in accordance with the applicable provisions of this subtitle; and

28 (ii) Shall pay the claim submitted by:

1 [(2)] (3) A health maintenance organization shall disclose, on request of
2 a health care provider not under written contract with the health maintenance
3 organization, the reimbursement rate required under paragraph (1)(i)2 and 3 of this
4 subsection.

5 [(3)] (4) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, a health
6 maintenance organization may require a trauma physician not under contract with
7 the health maintenance organization to submit appropriate adjunct claims
8 documentation and to include on the uniform claim form a provider number assigned
9 to the trauma physician by the health maintenance organization.

10 (ii) If a health maintenance organization requires a trauma
11 physician to include a provider number on the uniform claim form in accordance with
12 subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the health maintenance organization shall assign
13 a provider number to a trauma physician not under contract with the health
14 maintenance organization at the request of the physician.

15 [(4)] (5) A trauma center, on request from a health maintenance
16 organization, shall verify that a licensed physician is credentialed or otherwise
17 designated by the trauma center to provide trauma care.

18 [(5)] (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 19-701(d) of this subtitle,
19 for trauma care rendered to a trauma patient in a trauma center by a trauma
20 physician, a health maintenance organization may not require a referral or
21 preauthorization for a service to be covered.

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