

SENATE BILL 1022

C4

71r3415

By: ~~Senator Middleton~~ **Senators Middleton, Della, Exum, Garagiola, Kelley, Klausmeier, and Pugh**

Constitutional Requirements Complied with for Introduction in the last 35 Days of Session

Introduced and read first time: March 9, 2007

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Finance, March 12, 2007

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 24, 2007

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Group Life Insurance – Additional Insureds – Domestic Partners**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing insurers that issue certain policies of group life
4 insurance to extend coverage to the domestic partner of the employee or
5 member who is covered under a policy of group life insurance; providing that the
6 term “domestic partner” has the meaning stated in the policy; prohibiting the
7 insurance on the life of the domestic partner from exceeding the amount of
8 insurance on the life of the insured employee or member; requiring the
9 policyholder to pay the premium for the insurance on the domestic partner from
10 certain funds; providing that the domestic partner insured under the policy is
11 entitled to certain rights of conversion under certain circumstances; and
12 generally relating to coverage for domestic partners under policies of group life
13 insurance.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Insurance
16 Section 17–209

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

5 **Article – Insurance**

6 17–209.

7 (a) (1) Insurance under a policy of group life insurance issued in
8 accordance with §§ 17–201 through 17–205 of this subtitle may be extended to cover
9 the spouse[and], **DOMESTIC PARTNER, OR** dependent children of each insured
10 employee or member who elects to obtain the coverage.

11 (2) The policy may provide that the term “dependent children”
12 includes:

13 (i) an insured employee’s or member’s child under 18 years of
14 age; and

15 (ii) an insured employee’s or member’s child 18 years of age or
16 older who attends an educational institution and relies on the insured employee or
17 member for financial support.

18 **(3) THE TERM “DOMESTIC PARTNER” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN**
19 **THE POLICY.**

20 ~~[(3)]~~ **(4)** The insurance on the life of a spouse, **DOMESTIC PARTNER,** or
21 child may not exceed the amount of the insurance on the life of the insured employee
22 or member.

23 (b) The policyholder shall pay the premium for the insurance on the spouse,
24 **DOMESTIC PARTNER,** or child:

25 (1) wholly from the funds of the policyholder or funds contributed by
26 the policyholder;

27 (2) wholly from funds contributed by the insured employees or
28 members; or

1 (3) partly from the funds of the policyholder or funds contributed by
2 the policyholder and partly from funds contributed by the insured employees or
3 members.

4 (c) A spouse, **DOMESTIC PARTNER**, or dependent child insured under this
5 section is entitled to:

6 (1) the rights of conversion under § 17-309 of this title, if employment
7 of the employee or membership in the class or classes eligible for insurance under the
8 policy is terminated; and

9 (2) the rights of conversion under § 17-310 of this title, if the policy of
10 group life insurance terminates or is amended to terminate the insurance of the
11 spouse, **DOMESTIC PARTNER**, or dependent child.

12 (d) Notwithstanding § 17-308 of this title, only one certificate must be issued
13 for each family unit if a statement about a dependent's coverage is included in the
14 certificate.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2007.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.