

HB0277/686888/1

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 277

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Authority to Act” and substitute “Adoption of Regulations Applicable”; in the same line, after “Emergency” insert “– Required”; in lines 3 and 4, strike “managed care organizations and”; in line 4, strike “and purpose”; strike beginning with “specifying” in line 4 down through “regulations;” in line 8; in line 9, after “the” insert “Maryland Insurance”; in the same line, after “regulations” insert “that may be applied in certain emergencies or disasters; authorizing the regulations to apply to certain persons and address certain activities; requiring the Commissioner to issue a certain bulletin under certain circumstances; requiring the Commissioner to provide a copy of the bulletin to a certain emergency contact; authorizing the Commissioner to post a copy of the bulletin on a certain website”; in line 10, after the second “the” insert “Maryland”; and strike in their entirety lines 11 through 15, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 4 through 7, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On pages 2 and 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 13 on page 2 through line 20 on page 3, inclusive, and substitute:

“(A) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT MAY BE APPLIED WHEN:

(1) THE GOVERNOR HAS DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE STATE OR AN AREA WITHIN THE STATE UNDER § 14-107 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE; OR

(Over)

(2) THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS ISSUED A MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR THE STATE OR AN AREA WITHIN THE STATE UNDER THE FEDERAL STAFFORD ACT.

(B) THE REGULATIONS MAY:

(1) APPLY TO ANY PERSON REGULATED BY THE COMMISSIONER UNDER THIS ARTICLE OR TITLE 19, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE; AND

(2) ADDRESS:

(I) SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS OR PROOF OF LOSS;

(II) GRACE PERIODS FOR PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS AND PERFORMANCE OF OTHER DUTIES BY INSUREDS;

(III) TEMPORARY POSTPONEMENT OF CANCELLATIONS, NONRENEWALS, PREMIUM INCREASES, OR POLICY MODIFICATIONS;

(IV) PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING NONELECTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES;

(V) TIME RESTRICTIONS FOR FILLING OR REFILLING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS;

(VI) TIME FRAMES APPLICABLE TO AN ACTION BY THE COMMISSIONER UNDER THIS ARTICLE; AND

(VII) ANY OTHER ACTIVITY NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE RESIDENTS OF THE STATE.

(C) (1) TO ACTIVATE A REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ISSUE A BULLETIN SPECIFYING:

(I) THAT THE REGULATION IS ACTIVATED;

(II) THE LINE OR LINES OF BUSINESS TO WHICH THE REGULATION APPLIES;

(III) THE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS TO WHICH THE REGULATION APPLIES; AND

(IV) THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR WHICH THE REGULATION APPLIES.

(2) A REGULATION ACTIVATED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT APPLY BEYOND THE DURATION OF, OR THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA INCLUDED WITHIN, THE GOVERNOR'S OR PRESIDENT'S DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY OR DISASTER.

(3) THE COMMISSIONER:

(I) SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE BULLETIN TO THE EMERGENCY CONTACT DESIGNATED BY THE PERSON SUBJECT TO THE BULLETIN; AND

(II) MAY POST A COPY OF THE BULLETIN ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S WEBSITE."