

HOUSE BILL 1127

C3

4lr2606
CF SB 884

By: **Delegate Tarrant**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Incentives for Health Care Practitioners**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which a health insurance carrier
4 is not prohibited from providing bonuses or other incentive–based compensation
5 to a health care practitioner; and generally relating to incentives for health care
6 practitioners under health insurance.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Insurance
9 Section 15–113(a) and (b)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Insurance
14 Section 15–113(c)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Insurance**

20 15–113.

21 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (2) “Carrier” means:

23 (i) an insurer;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (ii) a nonprofit health service plan;
- 2 (iii) a health maintenance organization;
- 3 (iv) a dental plan organization; or
- 4 (v) any other person that provides health benefit plans subject
5 to regulation by the State.

6 (3) "Health care practitioner" means an individual who is licensed,
7 certified, or otherwise authorized under the Health Occupations Article to provide
8 health care services.

9 (b) A carrier may not reimburse a health care practitioner in an amount less
10 than the sum or rate negotiated in the carrier's provider contract with the health care
11 practitioner.

12 (c) This section does not prohibit a carrier from providing bonuses or other
13 incentive-based compensation to a health care practitioner if the bonus or other
14 incentive-based compensation:

15 (1) complies with the provisions of § 19-705.1 of the Health – General
16 Article;

17 (2) promotes the delivery of medically appropriate care to an enrollee;
18 [and]

19 (3) [except for the provision of preventive health care services, is not
20 based on the cost, or number of medical services provided, proposed, or recommended
21 by the health care practitioner without reference to the medical appropriateness or
22 necessity of the services] **PROMOTES THE PROVISION OF PREVENTIVE HEALTH
23 CARE SERVICES; AND**

24 **(4) (I) PROMOTES THE PROVISION OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE
25 SERVICES DELIVERED IN AN EFFICIENT MANNER; OR**

26 **(II) REWARDS A HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER BASED ON
27 SATISFACTION OF PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS AGREED ON IN WRITING BY
28 THE CARRIER AND HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER.**

29 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2014.