

# HOUSE BILL 847

C3  
HB 667/17 – HGO

8lr3174

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By: **Delegate Carr**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2018

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Coverage for Lymphedema Diagnosis, Evaluation, and**  
3 **Treatment**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health  
5 maintenance organizations that provide certain health insurance benefits under  
6 certain insurance policies or contracts to provide coverage for certain diagnosis,  
7 evaluation, and treatment of lymphedema; providing that the required coverage may  
8 be subject to certain deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance; providing for the  
9 application of this Act; defining a certain term; providing for a delayed effective date;  
10 and generally relating to coverage for lymphedema diagnosis, evaluation, and  
11 treatment under health insurance.

12 BY adding to  
13 Article – Insurance  
14 Section 15–853  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2017 Replacement Volume)

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

19 **Article – Insurance**

20 **15–853.**

21 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, “GRADIENT COMPRESSION GARMENT” MEANS A**  
22 **GARMENT THAT:**

23 **(I) IS USED FOR THE TREATMENT OF LYMPHEDEMA;**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (II) REQUIRES A PRESCRIPTION; AND

2 (III) IS CUSTOM FIT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL FOR WHOM THE  
3 GARMENT IS PRESCRIBED.

4 (2) "GRADIENT COMPRESSION GARMENT" DOES NOT INCLUDE  
5 DISPOSABLE MEDICAL SUPPLIES, INCLUDING OVER-THE-COUNTER COMPRESSION  
6 OR ELASTIC KNEE-HIGH OR OTHER STOCKING PRODUCTS.

7 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

8 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT  
9 PROVIDE HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS  
10 ON AN EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR  
11 CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

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

15 (C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR  
16 THE MEDICALLY NECESSARY DIAGNOSIS, EVALUATION, AND TREATMENT OF  
17 LYMPHEDEMA, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, COMPLEX DECONGESTIVE  
18 THERAPY, GRADIENT COMPRESSION GARMENTS, AND SELF-MANAGEMENT  
19 TRAINING AND EDUCATION.

20 (D) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE  
21 COVERAGE REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE ANNUAL  
22 DEDUCTIBLES, COPAYMENTS, OR COINSURANCE REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED BY AN  
23 ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION FOR SIMILAR COVERAGES UNDER THE SAME  
24 HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY OR CONTRACT.

25 (2) THE ANNUAL DEDUCTIBLES, COPAYMENTS, OR COINSURANCE  
26 REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE  
27 COVERAGE REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE GREATER THAN THE  
28 ANNUAL DEDUCTIBLES, COPAYMENTS, OR COINSURANCE REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED  
29 BY THE ENTITY FOR SIMILAR COVERAGES.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to all  
31 policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or  
32 after January 1, 2019.

33 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
34 January 1, 2019.