

HOUSE BILL 1310

C3

8lr3106
CF 8lr3897

By: **Delegates Ghrist, Hornberger, and Krebs**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Provider Panels – Procedures and Credentialing Practices**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain time period after a certain date within which a carrier
4 is required to send a certain notice; altering a certain time period after a certain date
5 within which a carrier is required to make a certain decision and send a certain
6 notice under certain circumstances; prohibiting a carrier from imposing a limit on
7 the number of providers at a health care facility that may be credentialed to
8 participate on a certain provider panel; and generally relating to health insurance
9 and provider panels.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

11 Article – Insurance
12 Section 15–112(g)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2017 Replacement Volume)

15 BY adding to

16 Article – Insurance
17 Section 15–112(x)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2017 Replacement Volume)

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

22 **Article – Insurance**
23 15–112.

24 (g) (1) A provider that seeks to participate on a provider panel of a carrier shall
25 submit an application to the carrier.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) (i) Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, the carrier, after
2 reviewing the application, shall accept or reject the provider for participation on the
3 carrier's provider panel.

4 (ii) If the carrier rejects the provider for participation on the carrier's
5 provider panel, the carrier shall send to the provider at the address listed in the application
6 written notice of the rejection.

7 (3) (i) Subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, within ~~[30]~~ **15** days
8 after the date a carrier receives a completed application, the carrier shall send to the
9 provider at the address listed in the application a written notice of:

10 1. the carrier's intent to continue to process the provider's
11 application to obtain necessary credentialing information; or

12 2. the carrier's rejection of the provider for participation on
13 the carrier's provider panel.

14 (ii) The failure of a carrier to provide the notice required under
15 subparagraph (i) of this paragraph is a violation of this article and the carrier is subject to
16 the penalties provided by § 4-113(d) of this article.

17 (iii) Except as provided in subsection (v) of this section, if, under
18 subparagraph (i)1 of this paragraph, a carrier provides notice to the provider of its intent
19 to continue to process the provider's application to obtain necessary credentialing
20 information, the carrier, within ~~[120]~~ **60** days after the date the notice is provided, shall:

21 1. accept or reject the provider for participation on the
22 carrier's provider panel; and

23 2. send written notice of the acceptance or rejection to the
24 provider at the address listed in the application.

25 (iv) The failure of a carrier to provide the notice required under
26 subparagraph (iii)2 of this paragraph is a violation of this article and the carrier is subject
27 to the provisions of and penalties provided by §§ 4-113 and 4-114 of this article.

28 (4) (i) 1. Except as provided in subsubparagraph 4 of this
29 subparagraph, a carrier that receives a complete application shall notify the provider that
30 the application is complete.

31 2. If a carrier does not accept applications through the online
32 credentialing system, notice shall be given to the provider at the address listed in the
33 application within 10 days after the date the application is received.

34 3. If a carrier accepts applications through the online
35 credentialing system, the notice from the online credentialing system to the provider that

1 the carrier has received the provider's application shall be considered notice that the
2 application is complete.

3 4. This subparagraph does not apply to a carrier that
4 arranges a dental provider panel until the Commissioner certifies that the online
5 credentialing system is capable of accepting the uniform credentialing form designated by
6 the Commissioner for dental provider panels.

7 (ii) 1. A carrier that receives an incomplete application shall
8 return the application to the provider at the address listed in the application within 10
9 days after the date the application is received.

10 2. The carrier shall indicate to the provider what information
11 is needed to make the application complete.

12 3. The provider may return the completed application to the
13 carrier.

14 4. After the carrier receives the completed application, the
15 carrier is subject to the time periods established in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

16 (5) A carrier may charge a reasonable fee for an application submitted to
17 the carrier under this section.

18 **(X) A CARRIER MAY NOT IMPOSE A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF**
19 **PROVIDERS AT A HEALTH CARE FACILITY THAT MAY BE CREDENTIALLED TO**
20 **PARTICIPATE ON A PROVIDER PANEL.**

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
22 1, 2018.