

HOUSE BILL 601

C3

0lr1636

By: **Delegates Ghrist, Arentz, Jacobs, Kelly, and Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Provider Panels – Registered Psychology Associates**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a carrier from rejecting a provider who provides
4 community-based health services for an accredited program solely because the
5 provider is a registered psychology associate; making a stylistic change; and
6 generally relating to health insurance and provider panels.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Insurance

9 Section 15–112(g)(1)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Insurance

14 Section 15–112(g)(2)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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 15–112.

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

23 (2) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph and paragraph (3)
24 of this subsection, the carrier, after reviewing the application, shall accept or reject the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 provider for participation on the carrier's provider panel.

2 (ii) A carrier may not reject a provider who provides
3 community-based health services for a program accredited under COMAR 10.63.02 for
4 participation on the carrier's provider panel solely because the provider is:

5 1. a licensed graduate social worker or a licensed master
6 social worker, as those terms are defined in § 19-101 of the Health Occupations Article;
7 [or]

8 2. a licensed graduate alcohol and drug counselor, a licensed
9 graduate marriage and family therapist, a licensed graduate professional art therapist, or
10 a licensed graduate professional counselor, as those terms are defined in § 17-101 of the
11 Health Occupations Article; **OR**

12 **3. A REGISTERED PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATE, AS DEFINED**
13 **IN § 18-101 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.**

14 (iii) If the carrier rejects the provider for participation on the carrier's
15 provider panel, the carrier shall send to the provider at the address listed in the application
16 written notice of the rejection.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2020.