HOUSE BILL 1314

By: Delegates Miller, Alston, Buckel, Hornberger, McComas, Rose, and Tomlinson <u>Tomlinson, Bagnall, Bhandari, Chisholm, Cullison, Guzzone, Hutchinson,</u> <u>S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kerr, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Pena-Melnyk,</u> <u>Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, Woods, and</u> <u>Woorman</u> Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments House action: Adopted Read second time: March 3, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

- Health Care Prior Authorizations Prohibiting Fees and Use of Artificial
 Intelligence
- FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health
 maintenance organizations from using artificial intelligence to automatically deny
 prior authorizations; prohibiting certain health care providers from charging a fee to
 obtain a prior authorization from a carrier or managed care organization; and
- 8 generally relating to prior authorizations.
- 9 BY adding to
- 10 Article Health General
- Section 24–2501 and 24–2502 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 25. Fees for
 Prior Authorizations Prohibited"
- 13 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 14 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

15 BY adding to

- 16 Article Insurance
- 17 Section 15–1012
- 18 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 19 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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$\frac{1}{2}$	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
3	Article – Health – General
4	SUBTITLE 25. FEES FOR PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS – PROHIBITED.
5	24-2501.
6 7	(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
8	(B) "CARRIER" MEANS:
9	(1) A HEALTH INSURER;
10	(2) A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN;
11	(3) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION; OR
$12\\13$	(4) ANY OTHER ENTITY THAT PROVIDES HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS SUBJECT TO REGULATION BY THE STATE.
14	(C) "HEALTH CARE PROVIDER" MEANS:
$\begin{array}{c} 15\\ 16 \end{array}$	(1) A HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER REGULATED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE; OR
17	(2) A FACILITY THAT PROVIDES HEALTH CARE TO INDIVIDUALS.
18 19	(D) "PRIOR AUTHORIZATION" MEANS A UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUE THAT:
20	(1) IS USED BY CARRIERS AND MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS;
21 22 23	(2) REQUIRES PRIOR APPROVAL FOR A PROCEDURE, TREATMENT, MEDICATION, OR SERVICE BEFORE AN ENROLLEE IS ELIGIBLE FOR FULL PAYMENT OF THE BENEFIT; AND
$\frac{24}{25}$	(3) IS USED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PROCEDURE, TREATMENT, MEDICATION, OR SERVICE IS MEDICALLY NECESSARY.
26	24-2502.

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1 A <u>AN IN-NETWORK</u> HEALTH CARE PROVIDER MAY NOT CHARGE A FEE TO 2 OBTAIN A PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM A CARRIER OR MANAGED CARE 3 ORGANIZATION.

4

Article – Insurance

5 15-1012.

6 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS 7 INDICATED.

8 (2) "ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 9 3.5-801 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

10 (3) "PRIOR AUTHORIZATION" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1–230 11 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

12 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

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

17(2)HEALTHMAINTENANCEORGANIZATIONSTHATPROVIDE18HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER19CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

20 (C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY NOT USE ARTIFICIAL 21 INTELLIGENCE TO AUTOMATICALLY DENY A PRIOR AUTHORIZATION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to all
 policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or
 after January 1, 2026.

25 SECTION 3. <u>2.</u> AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 26 January 1, 2026.