

HOUSE BILL 1126

J5, J1

6lr2400

By: **Delegate Qi**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026

Assigned to: Health

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance and Managed Care Organizations – Laboratory Services –**
3 **Contract Providers**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain carriers and managed care organizations from
5 prohibiting an enrollee from selecting, or limiting the ability of an enrollee to select,
6 a laboratory; prohibiting certain carriers and managed care organizations from
7 denying a laboratory the right to participate in the health benefit plan if the
8 laboratory agrees to comply with certain terms; prohibiting certain carriers and
9 managed care organizations from imposing additional copayments, fees, or
10 conditions for laboratory services provided to an enrollee; and generally relating to
11 health insurance, managed care organizations, and laboratory services.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Health – General
14 Section 15–102.3(a)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Insurance
19 Section 15–112(y)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Health – General**

25 15–102.3.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) The provisions of § 15–112(b)(1)(ii) and (2), (f) through (m), (r), (s), [and] (u)
2 through (w), AND (Y) of the Insurance Article (Provider panels) shall apply to managed
3 care organizations in the same manner they apply to carriers.

4 **Article – Insurance**

5 15–112.

6 **(Y) A CARRIER THAT PROVIDES COVERAGE FOR LABORATORY SERVICES**
7 **UNDER HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE**
8 **MAY NOT:**

9 **(1) PROHIBIT AN ENROLLEE FROM SELECTING, OR LIMIT THE ABILITY**
10 **OF AN ENROLLEE TO SELECT, A LABORATORY OF THE ENROLLEE’S CHOICE FOR THE**
11 **RECEIPT OF LABORATORY SERVICES IF THE LABORATORY PARTICIPATES AS A**
12 **CONTRACT PROVIDER IN THE HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN OFFERED BY THE CARRIER;**

13 **(2) DENY A LABORATORY THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE AS A CONTRACT**
14 **PROVIDER UNDER A HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN IF THE LABORATORY AGREES TO:**

15 **(I) PROVIDE LABORATORY SERVICES IN A MANNER THAT**
16 **MEETS THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER THE HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN; AND**

17 **(II) THE TERMS OF REIMBURSEMENT ESTABLISHED BY THE**
18 **CARRIER UNDER THE HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN; OR**

19 **(3) FOR LABORATORY SERVICES PROVIDED TO AN ENROLLEE UNDER**
20 **A HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN THAT ARE RECEIVED FROM A CONTRACT PROVIDER,**
21 **IMPOSE ON THE ENROLLEE A COPAYMENT, FEE, OR CONDITION NOT IMPOSED ON**
22 **ALL OTHER ENROLLEES FOR THE SAME LABORATORY UNDER THE HEALTH BENEFIT**
23 **PLAN.**

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2026.