

WHEREAS, Certain required coverages may have the potential to make the health delivery system more efficient; and

WHEREAS, Analysis of mandated insurance benefits present a unique blend of complex scientific, medical, statistical, and economic issues that require objective, expert analysis; and

WHEREAS, The State will greatly benefit from the creation of a formalized, expert review process to analyze and make findings regarding existing and proposed mandated health insurance benefits; now, therefore,

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

Article 48A – Insurance Code

490M.

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

(2) “MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT” MEANS A LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL OR STATUTE THAT REQUIRES A PARTICULAR HEALTH CARE SERVICE, BENEFIT, COVERAGE, OR REIMBURSEMENT FOR COVERED HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED OR OFFERED IN A HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY OR CONTRACT ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE BY A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN OR BY A COMMERCIAL INSURER.

(3) “NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISION” MEANS A LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL OR STATUTE THAT PROHIBITS A NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN OR COMMERCIAL INSURER WHO PROVIDES OR OFFERS A PARTICULAR SERVICE, BENEFIT, COVERAGE, OR REIMBURSEMENT FOR COVERED HEALTH CARE SERVICES FROM EXCLUDING A SUBSPECIES FOR COVERAGE SUBCATEGORY FROM COVERAGE OR SUBJECTS THE SUBCATEGORY TO LIMITATIONS OR CONDITIONS NOT IMPOSED ON OTHER SUBCATEGORIES.

(4) “PANEL” MEANS AN EXPERT REVIEW PANEL.

(5) “COMMITTEE” MEANS THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS.

(B) (1) THERE IS AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS ASSIGNED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE.

(2) THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF:

(I) ~~THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE OR THE SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;~~