

circumstances; and generally relating to required reimbursement for services of professional counselors and therapists under health insurance.

BY repealing

Article - Insurance

Section 15-704

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Insurance

Section 15-704

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

**Article - Insurance**

[15-704.

Notwithstanding § 15-701(a) of this subtitle, unless a policy, contract, or certificate described in §. 15-701(a) of this subtitle expressly provides for reimbursement for a service that is within the lawful scope of practice of a professional counselor or professional counselor-marriage and family therapist certified under the Health Occupations Article, the provisions of the Health Occupations Article that govern the certification and regulation of professional counselors and professional counselor-marriage and family therapists may not be construed to entitle the insured or any other person covered by the policy, contract, or certificate to reimbursement for the service.]

15-704.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO EACH INDIVIDUAL, GROUP, OR BLANKET HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY, CONTRACT, OR CERTIFICATE OF AN INSURER OR NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLAN THAT:

(1) (I) IS DELIVERED OR ISSUED FOR DELIVERY IN THE STATE;

(II) IS ISSUED TO A GROUP THAT IS INCORPORATED OR HAS A MAIN OFFICE IN THE STATE; OR

(III) COVERS INDIVIDUALS WHO RESIDE OR WORK IN THE STATE;

AND

(2) IS ISSUED, RENEWED, AMENDED, OR REISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2003.

(B) IF A POLICY, CONTRACT, OR CERTIFICATE SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION PROVIDES FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR A SERVICE THAT IS WITHIN THE LAWFUL