

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 98

(Chair, Finance Committee)(By Request - Departmental -
Maryland Insurance Administration)

Finance

Health and Government Operations

**Health Insurance - Technical Correction and Required Conformity With Federal
Law**

This departmental bill updates a provision of health insurance law to conform with regulations relating to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Specifically, the bill expands the types of coverage that an eligible employee or dependent may have had prior to a permanent move that trigger a special enrollment period.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any change in State activities does not materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Maryland Insurance Administration has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law: Under current law, a carrier must provide a special enrollment period during which an individual who experiences a triggering event can enroll in or change health benefit plans. Triggering events include, among other provisions, when an eligible employee or dependent gains access to a new qualified health plan as a result of a permanent move.

Under the bill, an individual who had coverage for prenatal care or services (including coverage under Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program) or medically needy Medicaid coverage for one or more days during the 60-day period preceding the date of the permanent move qualifies for a special enrollment period.

Background: The bill’s changes conform to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2020 released on April 18, 2019, and generally effective for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2020.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Budget and Management; Maryland Health Benefit Exchange; Maryland Insurance Administration; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 7, 2020
af/ljm Third Reader - March 6, 2020

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Insurance – Technical Corrections and Required Conformity with Federal Law

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 98

PREPARED BY: Maryland Insurance Administration
(Dept./Agency)

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

 X WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

 WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

It is not expected that there will be any fiscal impact on small business.