

HOUSE BILL 730

C3

7lr2539

By: **Delegate Hill (By Request) and Delegates Bromwell, Ebersole, Lam, Sydnor, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2017

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance – Coverage for Diabetes Test Strips – Prohibition on**
3 **Deductible, Copayment, and Coinsurance**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health
5 maintenance organizations from imposing a deductible, copayment, or coinsurance
6 requirement on diabetes test strips; making conforming changes; providing for the
7 application of this Act; and generally relating to coverage of diabetes test strips
8 under health insurance.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Insurance
11 Section 15–822
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Insurance**

17 15–822.

18 (a) This section applies to:

19 (1) insurers and nonprofit health service plans that provide hospital,
20 medical, or surgical benefits to individuals or groups on an expense–incurred basis under
21 health insurance policies that are issued or delivered in the State; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) health maintenance organizations that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits to individuals or groups under contracts that are issued or delivered in the State.

(b) An entity subject to this section shall provide coverage for all medically appropriate and necessary diabetes equipment, diabetes supplies, and diabetes outpatient self-management training and educational services, including medical nutrition therapy, that the insured's or enrollee's treating physician or other appropriately licensed health care provider, or a physician who specializes in the treatment of diabetes, certifies are necessary for the treatment of:

(1) insulin-using diabetes;

(2) noninsulin-using diabetes; or

(3) elevated blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy.

(c) If certified as necessary under subsection (b) of this section, the diabetes outpatient self-management training and educational services, including medical nutrition therapy, to be provided to the insured or enrollee shall be provided through a program supervised by an appropriately licensed, registered, or certified health care provider whose scope of practice includes diabetes education or management.

(d) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, **AND EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION**, the coverage required under this section may be subject to the annual deductibles or coinsurance requirements imposed by an entity subject to this section for similar coverages under the same health insurance policy or contract.

(2) **[The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE** annual deductibles or coinsurance requirements imposed under paragraph (1) of this subsection for the coverage required under this section may not be greater than the annual deductibles or coinsurance requirements imposed by the entity for similar coverages.

(3) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY NOT IMPOSE A DEDUCTIBLE, COPAYMENT, OR COINSURANCE REQUIREMENT ON DIABETES TEST STRIPS.

(e) An entity subject to this section may not reduce or eliminate coverages in its health insurance policies or contracts due to the requirements of this section.

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 October 1, 2017.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2017.