AN ACT to amend the Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan Act by changing Sections 2 and 15.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan Act is amended by changing Sections 2 and 15 as follows:

(215 ILCS 105/2) (from Ch. 73, par. 1302)

Sec. 2. Definitions. As used in this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Plan administrator" means the insurer or third party administrator designated under Section 5 of this Act.

"Benefits plan" means the coverage to be offered by the Plan to eligible persons and federally eligible individuals pursuant to this Act.

"Board" means the Illinois Comprehensive Health Insurance Board.

"Church plan" has the same meaning given that term in the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

"Continuation coverage" means continuation of coverage under a group health plan or other health insurance coverage for former employees or dependents of former employees that would otherwise have terminated under the terms of that coverage pursuant to any continuation provisions under federal or State law, including the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA), as amended, Sections 367.2 and 367e of the Illinois Insurance Code, or any other similar requirement in another State.

"Covered person" means a person who is and continues to remain eligible for Plan coverage and is covered under one of the benefit plans offered by the Plan.

"Creditable coverage" means, with respect to a federally eligible individual, coverage of the individual under any of the following:

(A) A group health plan.

(B) Health insurance coverage (including group health insurance coverage).

(C) Medicare.

(D) Medical assistance.

(E) Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code.

(F) A medical care program of the Indian Health Service or of a tribal organization.

(G) A state health benefits risk pool.

(H) A health plan offered under Chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

(I) A public health plan (as defined in regulations consistent with Section 104 of the Health Care Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 that may be promulgated by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

(J) A health benefit plan under Section 5(e) of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504(e)).

(K) Any other qualifying coverage required by the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as it may be amended, or regulations under that Act.

"Creditable coverage" does not include coverage consisting solely of coverage of excepted benefits~~,~~ ~~(~~as defined in Section 2791(c) of title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300 gg-91)~~,~~ nor does it include any period of coverage under any of items (A) through (K) that occurred before a break of more than 90 ~~63~~ days during all of which the individual was not covered under any of items (A) through (K) above. Any period that an individual is in a waiting period for any coverage under a group health

plan (or for group health insurance coverage) or is in an affiliation period under the terms of health insurance coverage offered by a health maintenance organization shall not be taken into account in determining if there has been a break of more than 90 ~~63~~ days in any creditable ~~credible~~ coverage.

"Department" means the Illinois Department of Insurance.

"Dependent" means an Illinois resident: who is a spouse; or who is claimed as a dependent by the principal insured for purposes of filing a federal income tax return and resides in the principal insured's household, and is a resident unmarried child under the age of 19 years; or who is an unmarried child who also is a full-time student under the age of 23 years and who is financially dependent upon the principal insured; or who is a child of any age and who is disabled and financially dependent upon the principal insured.

"Direct Illinois premiums" means, for Illinois business, an insurer's direct premium income for the kinds of business described in clause (b) of Class 1 or clause (a) of Class 2 of Section 4 of the Illinois Insurance Code, and direct premium income of a health maintenance organization or a voluntary health services plan, except it shall not include credit health insurance as defined in Article IX 1/2 of the Illinois Insurance Code.

"Director" means the Director of the Illinois Department of Insurance.

"Eligible person" means a resident of this State who qualifies for Plan coverage under Section 7 of this Act.

"Employee" means a resident of this State who is employed by an employer or has entered into the employment of or works under contract or service of an employer including the officers, managers and employees of subsidiary or affiliated corporations and the individual proprietors, partners and

employees of affiliated individuals and firms when the business of the subsidiary or affiliated corporations, firms or individuals is controlled by a common employer through stock ownership, contract, or otherwise.

"Employer" means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, business trust, or any person or group of persons acting directly or indirectly in the interest of an employer in relation to an employee, for which one or more persons is gainfully employed.

"Family" coverage means the coverage provided by the Plan for the covered person and his or her eligible dependents who also are covered persons.

"Federally eligible individual" means an individual resident of this State:

(1)(A) for whom, as of the date on which the individual seeks Plan coverage under Section 15 of this Act, the aggregate of the periods of creditable coverage is 18 or more months, and (B) whose most recent prior creditable coverage was under group health insurance coverage offered by a health insurance issuer, a group health plan, a governmental plan, or a church plan (or health insurance coverage offered in connection with any such plans) or any other type of creditable coverage that may be required by the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as it may be amended, or the regulations under that Act;

(2) who is not eligible for coverage under (A) a group health plan, (B) part A or part B of Medicare <u>due to age</u>, or (C) medical assistance, and does not have other health insurance coverage;

(3) with respect to whom the most recent coverage within the coverage period described in paragraph (1)(A) of this definition was not terminated based upon a factor relating to nonpayment of premiums or fraud;

(4) if the individual had been offered the option of continuation coverage under a COBRA continuation provision or under a similar State program, who elected such coverage; and

(5) who, if the individual elected such continuation coverage, has exhausted such continuation coverage under such provision or program.

"Group health insurance coverage" means, in connection with a group health plan, health insurance coverage offered in connection with that plan.

"Group health plan" has the same meaning given that term in the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

"Governmental plan" has the same meaning given that term in the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

"Health insurance coverage" means benefits consisting of medical care (provided directly, through insurance or reimbursement, or otherwise and including items and services paid for as medical care) under any hospital and medical expense-incurred policy, certificate, or contract provided by an insurer, non-profit health care service plan contract, health maintenance organization or other subscriber contract, or any other health care plan or arrangement that pays for or furnishes medical or health care services whether by insurance or otherwise. Health insurance coverage shall not include short term, accident only, disability income, hospital confinement or fixed indemnity, dental only, vision only, limited benefit, or credit insurance, coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance, insurance arising out of a workers' compensation or similar law, automobile medical-payment insurance, or insurance under which benefits are payable with or without regard to fault and which is statutorily required to be contained in any liability

insurance policy or equivalent self-insurance.

"Health insurance issuer" means an insurance company, insurance service, or insurance organization (including a health maintenance organization and a voluntary health services plan) that is authorized to transact health insurance business in this State. Such term does not include a group health plan.

"Health Maintenance Organization" means an organization as defined in the Health Maintenance Organization Act.

"Hospice" means a program as defined in and licensed under the Hospice Program Licensing Act.

"Hospital" means a duly licensed institution as defined in the Hospital Licensing Act, an institution that meets all comparable conditions and requirements in effect in the state in which it is located, or the University of Illinois Hospital as defined in the University of Illinois Hospital Act.

"Individual health insurance coverage" means health insurance coverage offered to individuals in the individual market, but does not include short-term, limited-duration insurance.

"Insured" means any individual resident of this State who is eligible to receive benefits from any insurer (including health insurance coverage offered in connection with a group health plan) or health insurance issuer as defined in this Section.

"Insurer" means any insurance company authorized to transact health insurance business in this State and any corporation that provides medical services and is organized under the Voluntary Health Services Plans Act or the Health Maintenance Organization Act.

"Medical assistance" means the State medical assistance or medical assistance no grant (MANG) programs provided under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and Articles V (Medical

Assistance) and VI (General Assistance) of the Illinois Public Aid Code (or any successor program) or under any similar program of health care benefits in a state other than Illinois.

"Medically necessary" means that a service, drug, or supply is necessary and appropriate for the diagnosis or treatment of an illness or injury in accord with generally accepted standards of medical practice at the time the service, drug, or supply is provided. When specifically applied to a confinement it further means that the diagnosis or treatment of the covered person's medical symptoms or condition cannot be safely provided to that person as an outpatient. A service, drug, or supply shall not be medically necessary if it: (i) is investigational, experimental, or for research purposes; or (ii) is provided solely for the convenience of the patient, the patient's family, physician, hospital, or any other provider; or (iii) exceeds in scope, duration, or intensity that level of care that is needed to provide safe, adequate, and appropriate diagnosis or treatment; or (iv) could have been omitted without adversely affecting the covered person's condition or the quality of medical care; or (v) involves the use of a medical device, drug, or substance not formally approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

"Medical care" means the ordinary and usual professional services rendered by a physician or other specified provider during a professional visit for treatment of an illness or injury.

"Medicare" means coverage under both Part A and Part B of Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1395, et seq.

"Minimum premium plan" means an arrangement whereby a specified amount of health care claims is self-funded, but the insurance company assumes the risk that claims will

exceed that amount.

"Participating transplant center" means a hospital designated by the Board as a preferred or exclusive provider of services for one or more specified human organ or tissue transplants for which the hospital has signed an agreement with the Board to accept a transplant payment allowance for all expenses related to the transplant during a transplant benefit period.

"Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine pursuant to the Medical Practice Act of 1987.

"Plan" means the Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan established by this Act.

"Plan of operation" means the plan of operation of the Plan, including articles, bylaws and operating rules, adopted by the board pursuant to this Act.

"Provider" means any hospital, skilled nursing facility, hospice, home health agency, physician, registered pharmacist acting within the scope of that registration, or any other person or entity licensed in Illinois to furnish medical care.

"Qualified high risk pool" has the same meaning given that term in the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

"Resident" means a person who is and continues to be legally domiciled and physically residing on a permanent and full-time basis in a place of permanent habitation in this State that remains that person's principal residence and from which that person is absent only for temporary or transitory purpose.

"Skilled nursing facility" means a facility or that portion of a facility that is licensed by the Illinois Department of Public Health under the Nursing Home Care Act or a comparable licensing authority in another state to provide skilled nursing care.

"Stop-loss coverage" means an arrangement whereby an insurer insures against the risk that any one claim will exceed a specific dollar amount or that the entire loss of a self-insurance plan will exceed a specific amount.

"Third party administrator" means an administrator as defined in Section 511.101 of the Illinois Insurance Code who is licensed under Article XXXI 1/4 of that Code.

(Source: P.A. 90-30, eff. 7-1-97; 91-357, eff. 7-29-99; 91-735, eff. 6-2-00.)

(215 ILCS 105/15)

Sec. 15. Alternative portable coverage for federally eligible individuals.

(a) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection a. of Section 7, any federally eligible individual for whom a Plan application, and such enclosures and supporting documentation as the Board may require, is received by the Board within 90 ~~63~~ days after the termination of prior creditable coverage shall qualify to enroll in the Plan under the portability provisions of this Section.

(b) Any federally eligible individual seeking Plan coverage under this Section must submit with his or her application evidence, including acceptable written certification of previous creditable coverage, that will establish to the Board's satisfaction, that he or she meets all of the requirements to be a federally eligible individual and is currently and permanently residing in this State (as of the date his or her application was received by the Board).

(c) A period of creditable coverage shall not be counted, with respect to qualifying an applicant for Plan coverage as a federally eligible individual under this Section, if after such period and before the application for Plan coverage was received by the Board, there was at least a

90 ~~63~~ day period during all of which the individual was not covered under any creditable coverage.

(d) Any federally eligible individual who the Board determines qualifies for Plan coverage under this Section shall be offered his or her choice of enrolling in one of alternative portability health benefit plans which the Board is authorized under this Section to establish for these federally eligible individuals and their dependents.

(e) The Board shall offer a choice of health care coverages consistent with major medical coverage under the alternative health benefit plans authorized by this Section to every federally eligible individual. The coverages to be offered under the plans, the schedule of benefits, deductibles, co-payments, exclusions, and other limitations shall be approved by the Board. One optional form of coverage shall be comparable to comprehensive health insurance coverage offered in the individual market in this State or a standard option of coverage available under the group or individual health insurance laws of the State. The standard benefit plan that is authorized by Section 8 of this Act may be used for this purpose. The Board may also offer a preferred provider option and such other options as the Board determines may be appropriate for these federally eligible individuals who qualify for Plan coverage pursuant to this Section.

(f) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection f. of Section 8, any plan coverage that is issued to federally eligible individuals who qualify for the Plan pursuant to the portability provisions of this Section shall not be subject to any preexisting conditions exclusion, waiting period, or other similar limitation on coverage.

(g) Federally eligible individuals who qualify and enroll in the Plan pursuant to this Section shall be required to pay such premium rates as the Board shall establish and

approve in accordance with the requirements of Section 7.1 of this Act.

(h) A federally eligible individual who qualifies and enrolls in the Plan pursuant to this Section must satisfy on an ongoing basis all of the other eligibility requirements of this Act to the extent not inconsistent with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 in order to maintain continued eligibility for coverage under the Plan.

(Source: P.A. 90-30, eff. 7-1-97.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.