ENROLLED

House Bill No. 2700

(By Delegates H. White, Hrutkay and R. M. Thompson)

Passed March 8, 2003

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact section one, article three-c, chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to peer review organization protection and adding to the definition of “review organization” a health maintenance organization review committee and a hospital, medical, dental and health service corporation review committee.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section one, article three-c, chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3C. HEALTH CARE PEER REVIEW ORGANIZATION PROTECTION.

§30-3C-1. Definitions.

As used in this article:
“Health care professionals” means individuals who are licensed to practice in any health care field;

“Peer review” means the procedure for evaluation by health care professionals of the quality and efficiency of services ordered or performed by other health care professionals, including practice analysis, inpatient hospital and extended care facility utilization review, medical audit, ambulatory care review, and claims review;

“Professional society” includes medical, psychological, nursing, dental, optometric, pharmaceutical, chiropractic and podiatric organizations having as members at least a majority of the eligible licentiates in the area or health care facility or agency served by the particular organization; and

“Review organization” means any committee or organization engaging in peer review, including a hospital utilization review committee, a hospital tissue committee, a medical audit committee, a health insurance review committee, a health maintenance organization review committee, hospital, medical, dental and health service corporation review committee a hospital plan corporation review committee, a professional health service plan review committee or organization, a dental review committee, a physicians’ advisory committee, a podiatry advisory committee, a nursing advisory committee, any committee or organization established pursuant to a medical assistance program, and any committee established by one or more state or local professional societies or institutes, to gather and review information relating to the care and treatment of patients for the purposes of: (i) Evaluating and improving the quality of health care rendered; (ii) reducing morbidity or mortality; or (iii) establishing and enforcing guidelines designed to keep within reasonable bounds the cost of health care. It shall also mean any hospital board committee or organization reviewing the professional qualifications or activities of its
medical staff or applicants for admission thereto, and any professional standards review organizations established or required under state or federal statutes or regulations.
That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Larry J. Cowan
Chairman Senate Committee

Sharon Spencer
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.
In effect ninety days from passage

Dwight Stephens
Clerk of the Senate

Gregory G. Bazemore
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Earl Ray Tomblin
President of the Senate

Boyle C. Lewis
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 20th day of March, 2003.

Bob Wise
Governor