

No. 1978-16

AN ACT

SB 320

Providing reimbursement to insured by insurance company for services performed by a psychologist.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. (a) This act shall apply to every group or individual policy, contract, or certificate issued thereunder, of health, or sickness, or accident insurance delivered or issued for delivery within the Commonwealth including but not limited to policies, contracts or certificates issued by:

(1) Any stock insurance company as defined in section 202(c)(4) and (11), act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as "The Insurance Company Law of 1921."

(2) Any mutual insurance company as defined in section 202(d)(1) of "The Insurance Company Law of 1921."

(3) Any professional health services plan corporation as defined in Chapter 63 of Title 40 Pa.C.S.

(4) Any fraternal benefit societies as defined in Chapter 65 of Title 40 of Pa.C.S.

(5) Any voluntary nonprofit health service plan as defined in the act of December 29, 1972 (P.L.1701, No.364), known as the "Voluntary Nonprofit Health Service Act of 1972."

(6) Any person who sells or issues contracts or certificates of insurance which meet the requirements of this act.

(b) This act shall apply to all such policies, contracts or certificates issued, renewed, modified, altered, amended or reissued on or after the effective date of this act.

Section 2. Whenever a policy, contract or certificate provides for reimbursement for any psychologically necessary service which is within those areas for which the psychologist is licensed pursuant to the act of March 23, 1972 (P.L.136, No.52), referred to as the Psychologists License Act, the insured, or any other person covered by the policy, contract or certificate, shall be entitled to reimbursement for such service whether the service is performed by a physician or a psychologist operating within those areas for which he is licensed.

Section 3. The Insurance Commissioner shall promulgate such rules and regulations as are deemed necessary for the effective implementation and operation of this act. Public hearings shall be held prior to the promulgation of any such regulation, including a verbatim transcript and

cross-examination of all witnesses in accordance with applicable rules of procedure, unless such regulation or amendment is insubstantial.

Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

APPROVED—The 18th day of April, A. D. 1978.

MILTON J. SHAPP