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22 23 **SENATE BILL NO. 1513** 

Offered January 19, 2017

A BILL to amend and reenact § 38.2-3407.13 of the Code of Virginia, relating to health insurance; assignment of benefits.

Patron-Wagner

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 38.2-3407.13 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 38.2-3407.13. Refusal to accept assignments prohibited.

A. No insurer proposing to issue individual or group accident and sickness insurance policies providing hospital, medical and surgical or major medical coverage on an expense-incurred basis, no corporation providing individual or group accident and sickness subscription contracts, no health maintenance organization providing a health care plan for health care services, and no dental services plan offering or administering prepaid dental services shall refuse to accept or make reimbursement pursuant to an a bona fide assignment of benefits made to a dentist or oral surgeon health care provider or hospital by an insured, subscriber, or plan enrollee.

B. For the purpose of this section, "assignment of benefits" means the transfer of dental health care coverage reimbursement benefits or dental services reimbursement benefits or other rights under a dental services plan, an insurance policy, subscription contract, or dental services health care plan by an insured, subscriber, or plan enrollee to a health care provider, including a dentist or oral surgeon, or hospital. The assignment of benefits shall not be effective until the insured, subscriber or enrollee notifies the insurer, corporation or plan in writing of the assignment.