Maryland Legislative Summary: Senate Bill Two—Genetic Information—Non-Discrimination in Employment—Insurance

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Section One of the Bill, which took effect on April 10, 2001, also makes illegal any discriminatory action, such as failing to hire an individual, discharging an employee, or otherwise discriminating against any person, with respect to their genetic information or because of their refusal to make available the results of genetic tests. Employers are also unable to require genetic testing or information for hiring purposes or for determining benefits.

Section Two of the Bill, which takes effect on October 1, 2001, makes it illegal for health care insurers to use genetic information, or request genetic services to reject, deny, limit, cancel, refuse to renew, increase the rates of, affect the terms or conditions of, or affect a health insurance contract. Disclosure of genetic information is only authorized to provide medical care and research.