

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 65

(Chair, Finance Committee)(By Request - Departmental -
Workers' Compensation Commission)

Finance

Economic Matters

Workers' Compensation - Claim Processing - Electronic Delivery of Decisions

This departmental bill authorizes the Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC) to send copies of its decisions and orders electronically if the party's attorney of record (or, if the party is unrepresented, the party) consents.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal decrease in WCC expenditures due to savings on printing and postage costs.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: WCC has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Upon receipt of a claim, WCC may investigate the claim and must, on application of any party to the claim, order a hearing. WCC is required to make or deny an award within 30 days after the mailing of the notice of the filing of a claim or, if a hearing is held, after the hearing is concluded. The decision must be recorded in WCC's principal office, and a copy of the decision must be sent by first-class mail to each party's attorney of record or, if the party is unrepresented, to the party.

WCC advises that the bill is modeled after Rule 5(b)(2)(E) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which specifies that service may be effected by electronic means if the person being served has consented in writing.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Workers' Compensation Commission, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 10, 2013
ns/ljm

Analysis by: Jennifer A. Ellick

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510

ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Workers' Compensation – Electronic Delivery of Orders and Decisions

BILL NUMBER: SB 65

PREPARED BY: Workers' Compensation Commission

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

The proposed legislation will have no impact on small business in Maryland.