

HOUSE BILL 431

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1998 Regular Session
8lr0675

By: **Delegates Exum, Dembrow, Frank, Howard, Hurson, Pendergrass, B. Hughes, Kirk, Harrison, Fulton, Watson, Boston, Barve, Gordon, and Goldwater**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 1998
Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workers' Compensation - Death Benefits for Partly Dependent Spouses**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the maximum death benefit amount a partly
4 dependent spouse may receive under the Maryland Workers' Compensation
5 Law.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Labor and Employment
8 Section 9-682(c) and (d)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1991 Volume and 1997 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Labor and Employment**

14 9-682.

15 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the employer or its insurer
16 shall pay the weekly death benefit:

17 (1) for the period of partial dependency; or

18 (2) (I) FOR A PARTLY DEPENDENT SPOUSE, UNTIL \$45,000 HAS BEEN
19 PAID; AND

20 (II) FOR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL, until \$17,500 has been paid.

21 (d) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, if a surviving spouse who
22 is partly dependent remarries and does not have dependent children at the time of the
23 remarriage, the employer or its insurer shall make payments to the surviving spouse
24 for 2 years after the date of the remarriage.

1 (2) The total of the payments made before the remarriage may not
2 exceed [\$17,500] \$45,000.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
4 effect October 1, 1998.