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By: **Delegate Frank**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workers' Compensation - Funeral Expenses**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the maximum amount to be paid for funeral expenses

4 under the workers' compensation law for certain deceased employees.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article - Labor and Employment

7 Section 9-689

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (1991 Volume and 1997 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - Labor and Employment**

13 9-689.

14 (a) The employer or its insurer shall pay reasonable funeral expenses of a  
15 deceased covered employee, not exceeding [\$2,500] \$5,000, if the covered employee  
16 died as a result of:

17 (1) an accidental personal injury, within 7 years of the accidental  
18 personal injury; or

19 (2) an occupational disease.

20 (b) Unless approved by the Commission, a bill for funeral expenses of more  
21 than [\$2,500] \$5,000 is void and uncollectable out of:

22 (1) workers' compensation benefits payable with respect to the deceased  
23 covered employee; or

24 (2) personal assets of any person to whom workers' compensation  
25 benefits are payable with respect to the deceased covered employee.

1 (c) If there are no dependents, the employer, its insurer, or the Injured  
2 Workers' Insurance Fund, as appropriate, shall pay the expenses of the last sickness  
3 and burial of the covered employee.

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