

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 592

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

In line 2, strike “Insurers”; in line 3, after “requirements for” insert “certain governmental self-insurance groups, employers that self-insure, and”; in line 4, after “State” insert “; requiring the Workers’ Compensation Commission to report by a certain date to certain committees on certain information regarding the handling of certain workers’ compensation claims; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to office and personnel requirements for certain governmental self-insurance groups, employers that self-insure, and insurers providing workers’ compensation insurance in the State”; in line 7, after “Section” insert “9-404(g), 9-405(d), and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

After line 12, insert:

9-404.

(g) (1) Each governmental self-insurance group shall have in the State [an office run by] a competent individual who handles all [of the] DISPUTED workers’ compensation [work] CLAIMS in the State for the governmental self-insurance group.

(2) Each governmental self-insurance group shall establish a toll-free telephone number through which an employee or claimant, or a representative of an employee or claimant, may make direct telephone inquiries during regular business hours.

(3) The Commission may assess a fine not exceeding \$1,000 on a governmental self-insurance group that does not comply with this subsection.

9-405.

(Over)

(d) (1) Each employer that self-insures under this section shall have in the State [an office run by] a competent individual who handles all [of the] DISPUTED workers' compensation [work] CLAIMS in the State for the employer.

(2) Each employer that self-insures under this section shall establish a toll-free telephone number through which an employee or claimant, or a representative of an employee or claimant, may make direct telephone inquiries during regular business hours.

(3) The Commission may assess a fine not exceeding \$1,000 on a self-insurer that does not comply with this subsection.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

After line 22, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, with regard to the changes made in Section 1 of this Act in §§ 9-404(g)(1), 9-405(d)(1), and 9-410(a) of the Labor and Employment Article which alter the office and personnel requirements for governmental self-insurance groups, employers that self-insure, and insurers providing workers' compensation in the State, the Workers' Compensation Commission shall report by December 1, 2002 to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee on:

(1) the number and types of complaints that the Commission has received since October 1, 2001 and the status of those complaints;

(2) the number and types of violations that the Commission has identified since October 1, 2001 and the status of those violations; and

(3) any recommendations for changes to the law.”.

In line 23, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”; in line 24, after “2001.” insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of September 30, 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.