
By: **Senators Roesser and DeGrange**
Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workers' Compensation - Evaluation of Permanent Impairment - Behavioral**
3 **or Mental Disorder**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that certain permanent impairments involving
5 behavioral or mental disorders be evaluated by a certain licensed health care
6 provider; requiring a licensed health care provider who performs a certain
7 evaluation to report the evaluation to the Workers' Compensation Commission
8 in accordance with certain regulations; and generally relating to workers'
9 compensation claims.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Labor and Employment
12 Section 9-721
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Labor and Employment**

18 9-721.

19 (a) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A
20 physician shall evaluate a permanent impairment and report the evaluation to the
21 Commission in accordance with the regulations of the Commission.

22 (b) A medical evaluation of a permanent impairment shall include information
23 about:

24 (1) atrophy;

25 (2) pain;

26 (3) weakness; and

1 (4) loss of endurance, function, and range of motion.

2 (C) IF A PERMANENT IMPAIRMENT INVOLVES A BEHAVIORAL OR MENTAL
3 DISORDER, A LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST, OTHER QUALIFIED LICENSED PHYSICIAN, OR
4 LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST SHALL:

5 (1) EVALUATE THE PERMANENT IMPAIRMENT; AND

6 (2) REPORT THE EVALUATION TO THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE
7 WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2001.