
By: **Delegates Krysiak, Harrison, McHale, and ~~Moe~~ Moe, and Conrov**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2006

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 19, 2006

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Joint Committee on Workers' Compensation Benefit and Insurance**
3 **Oversight - Membership**

4 FOR the purpose of increasing the membership of the Joint Committee on Workers'
5 Compensation Benefit and Insurance Oversight to include a certain member;
6 providing for the qualifications of an additional member; making certain
7 stylistic changes; and generally relating to the membership of the Joint
8 Committee on Workers' Compensation Benefit and Insurance Oversight.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - State Government
11 Section 2-10A-03
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - State Government**

17 2-10A-03.

18 (a) There is a Joint Committee on Workers' Compensation Benefit and
19 Insurance Oversight.

20 (b) (1) The Committee consists of [14] ~~15~~ 16 members.

21 (2) Of the [14] ~~15~~ 16 members:

- 1 (i) 1. 2 shall be members of the Senate appointed by the
 2 President of the Senate;
- 3 2. 2 shall be Delegates appointed by the Speaker; and
- 4 (ii) [10] ~~12~~ shall be appointed jointly by the President and the
 5 Speaker as follows:
- 6 1. 1 representative of the business community;
- 7 2. 1 representative of the Maryland labor organizations;
- 8 3. 1 representative of the Maryland building and
 9 construction labor organizations;
- 10 4. 2 members of the public;
- 11 5. 1 member of the insurance industry;
- 12 6. 1 member of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of
 13 Maryland;
- 14 7. 1 member of a workers' compensation rating organization;
 15 [and]
- 16 8. 2 members of the Bar of the Court of Appeals of Maryland,
 17 1 of whom represents plaintiffs in workers' compensation cases and 1 of whom
 18 represents defendants in workers' compensation cases; ~~AND~~
- 19 9. 1 MEMBER WHO IS CERTIFIED BY THE WORKERS'
 20 COMPENSATION COMMISSION AS A MARYLAND REHABILITATION SERVICE
 21 PROVIDER; ~~AND~~
- 22 10. 1 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INJURED WORKER'S
 23 INSURANCE FUND.

24 (c) The members of the Committee serve at the pleasure of the presiding
 25 officer who appointed them.

26 (d) The President and the Speaker shall jointly appoint a Senator and a
 27 Delegate each to serve as [cochairman] COCHAIR.

28 (e) (1) (i) The Committee shall examine and evaluate:

29 1. the condition of the workers' compensation benefit and
 30 insurance structure in the State; and

31 2. the effect of Chapters 590 and 591 of the Laws of
 32 Maryland of 1987 on that structure.

1 (ii) This examination shall include the regulations adopted by the
2 Workers' Compensation Commission that are to be used by physicians to measure
3 impairment when preparing medical evaluations of claimants.

4 (2) The Committee shall review the adequacy and appropriateness of all
5 benefits specified in §§ 9-626 and 9-627(a) and (b) of the Labor and Employment
6 Article and make recommendations for necessary changes prior to the 1992 Regular
7 Session of the General Assembly.

8 (3) The Committee shall direct the Insurance Commissioner to prepare a
9 feasibility study on alternative methods to determine the provision for claim payment
10 and to submit the study to the Governor and the Legislative Policy Committee on or
11 before January 1, 1991.

12 (f) The Insurance Commissioner and the Workers' Compensation Commission
13 shall:

14 (1) cooperate fully with the Committee;

15 (2) keep the Committee fully informed as to the condition of workers'
16 compensation benefits and workers' compensation insurance in the State and the
17 effect of Chapters 590 and 591 of the Laws of Maryland of 1987 on those benefits and
18 that insurance; and

19 (3) submit an annual report, subject to § 2-1246 of this title, to the
20 Committee on or before October 1 of each year that incorporates the information
21 described in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

22 (g) The Committee shall report to the Governor and the Legislative Policy
23 Committee on December 31 of each year.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
25 effect October 1, 2006.