

HOUSE BILL 184

K1, P1
HB 627/06 – ECM

71r1500

By: **Delegates Krysiak, Kirk, and McHale**
Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2007
Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 22, 2007

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 2006 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.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

3 (b) (1) The Committee consists of [14] **15** members.

4 (2) Of the [14] **15** members:

5 (i) 1. 2 shall be members of the Senate appointed by the
6 President of the Senate;

7 2. 2 shall be Delegates appointed by the Speaker; and

8 (ii) [10] **11** shall be appointed jointly by the President and the
9 Speaker as follows:

10 1. 1 representative of the business community;

11 2. 1 representative of the Maryland labor organizations;

12 3. 1 representative of the Maryland building and
13 construction labor organizations;

14 4. 2 members of the public;

15 5. 1 member of the insurance industry;

16 6. 1 member of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of
17 Maryland;

18 7. 1 member of a workers' compensation rating
19 organization; [and]

20 8. 2 members of the Bar of the Court of Appeals of
21 Maryland, 1 of whom represents plaintiffs in workers' compensation cases and 1 of
22 whom represents defendants in workers' compensation cases; **AND**

23 **9. 1 MEMBER WHO IS CERTIFIED BY THE WORKERS'**
24 **COMPENSATION COMMISSION AS A MARYLAND REHABILITATION SERVICE**
25 **PROVIDER.**

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

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

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

6 1. the condition of the workers' compensation benefit
7 and insurance structure in the State; and

8 2. the effect of Chapters 590 and 591 of the Laws of
9 Maryland of 1987 on that structure.

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

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

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

21 (f) The Insurance Commissioner and the Workers' Compensation
22 Commission shall:

23 (1) cooperate fully with the Committee;

24 (2) keep the Committee fully informed as to the condition of workers'
25 compensation benefits and workers' compensation insurance in the State and the
26 effect of Chapters 590 and 591 of the Laws of Maryland of 1987 on those benefits and
27 that insurance; and

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

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

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2007.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.