CHAPTER 541

(House Bill 1400)

AN ACT concerning

Workers' Compensation - Covered Employees - State Government Volunteer Workers

FOR the purpose of providing that a volunteer worker for a unit of State government is a covered employee under the Maryland Workers' Compensation Act; specifying that, for certain purposes, the State is the employer of a certain volunteer worker; using the federal minimum wage in effect at a certain time to ealculate a certain average weekly wage for certain purposes; limiting the benefits provided to a volunteer worker to certain medical services and treatment; and generally relating to covered employment under workers' compensation law.

BY adding to

Article – Labor and Employment Section 9–231.1 and 9–602(m) Annotated Code of Maryland (1999 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

Article - Labor and Employment

9-231.1.

- (A) A VOLUNTEER WORKER FOR A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT IS A COVERED EMPLOYEE.
- (B) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS TITLE, THE STATE IS THE EMPLOYER OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A COVERED EMPLOYEE UNDER THIS SECTION.

9 - 602.

(C) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE, BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL CONSIST ONLY OF MEDICAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT UNDER SUBTITLE 6, PART IX OF THIS TITLE FOR A COMPENSABLE INJURY.

(M) FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPUTING THE AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE OF A VOLUNTEER WORKER WHO IS A COVERED EMPLOYEE UNDER § 9-231.1 OF THIS TITLE, THE WAGES OF THE COVERED EMPLOYEE SHALL BE THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE THAT IS IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENTAL PERSONAL INJURY OR LAST INJURIOUS EXPOSURE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect $\frac{\text{October July }}{\text{October July }}$ 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2008.