

BY: Economic Matters Committee

**AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 899**

(First Reading File Bill)

**AMENDMENT NO. 1**

On page 1, strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through “self-supporting;” in line 8; strike beginning with “authorizing” in line 10 down through “payments;” in line 12 and substitute “requiring the Workers’ Compensation Commission to conduct a certain study; requiring the Commission to establish a certain workgroup comprised of certain stakeholders; requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations by a certain date to certain committees;”; in line 17, after “9–681(e)” insert “and (j)”; and in line 22, strike “9–681(j) and”.

**AMENDMENT NO. 2**

On page 2, in line 13, strike the brackets; and strike beginning with “; **AND**” in line 15 down through “**INDIVIDUAL**” in line 17.

On page 3, in line 8, strike “**\$45,000**” and substitute “**\$75,000**”; in line 15, strike “\$60,000” and substitute “**\$75,000**”; strike in their entirety lines 16 through 30, inclusive; in line 31, strike the brackets; and in the same line, strike “**(F)**”.

**AMENDMENT NO. 3**

On page 4, after line 10, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) (1) The Workers’ Compensation Commission shall conduct a study on the death benefit provisions in §§ 9–678 through 9–686 of the Labor and Employment Article.

(2) The study shall determine legislative changes that would:

(Over)

(i) provide fair and equitable benefits to wholly dependent individuals and partially dependent individuals; and

(ii) provide for coordination among all of the death benefit provisions.

(b) In conducting its study, the Commission shall establish a workgroup that is comprised of representatives of the various stakeholders, including representatives of:

(1) the Commission;

(2) labor;

(3) defense counsel;

(4) counsel for claimants;

(5) employers, including a representative of small business;

(6) workers' compensation insurance companies, including a representative of the Injured Workers' Insurance Fund;

(7) local governments; and

(8) any other person that the Commission considers appropriate.

(c) On or before December 1, 2009, the Commission shall report, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, its findings and recommendations, including draft legislation to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee.”;

in lines 11 and 14, strike “2.” and “3.”, respectively, and substitute “3.” and “4.”, respectively; and in line 15, strike “October 1, 2009” and substitute “July 1, 2009”.