

HOUSE BILL 670

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By: **Delegate Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2010

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

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 and generally relating to membership of the Joint Committee on Workers'
7 Compensation Benefit and Insurance Oversight.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – State Government
10 Section 2–10A–03
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2009 Replacement Volume)

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

15 **Article – State Government**

16 2–10A–03.

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

19 (b) (1) The Committee consists of [15] 16 members.

20 (2) Of the [15] 16 members:

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 2 shall be Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the
2 House of Delegates; and

3 (ii) [11]12 shall be appointed jointly by the President and the
4 Speaker as follows:

5 1. 1 representative of the business community;

6 2. 1 representative of the Maryland labor organizations;

7 3. 1 representative of the Maryland building and
8 construction labor organizations;

9 4. **1 REPRESENTATIVE OF A SELF-INSURED LOCAL**
10 **GOVERNMENT ENTITY;**

11 [4.] 5. 2 members of the public;

12 [5.] 6. 1 member of the insurance industry;

13 [6.] 7. 1 member of the Medical and Chirurgical
14 Faculty of Maryland;

15 [7.] 8. 1 member of a workers' compensation rating
16 organization;

17 [8.] 9. 2 members of the Bar of the Court of Appeals of
18 Maryland, 1 of whom represents plaintiffs in workers' compensation cases and 1 of
19 whom represents defendants in workers' compensation cases; and

20 [9.] 10. 1 member who is certified by the Workers'
21 Compensation Commission as a Maryland rehabilitation service provider.

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

24 (d) The President and the Speaker shall jointly appoint a Senator and a
25 Delegate each to serve as cochair.

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

27 1. the condition of the workers' compensation benefit
28 and insurance structure in the State; and

29 2. the effect of Chapters 590 and 591 of the Laws of
30 Maryland of 1987 on that structure.

1 (ii) This examination shall include the regulations adopted by
2 the 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
5 all 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
9 prepare a feasibility study on alternative methods to determine the provision for claim
10 payment and to submit the study to the Governor and the Legislative Policy
11 Committee on or before January 1, 1991.

12 (f) The Insurance Commissioner and the Workers' Compensation
13 Commission 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 effect
25 October 1, 2010.