

HOUSE BILL 664

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3lr2585
CF 3lr2128

By: **Delegates Hucker and Jameson**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workers' Compensation Commission – Regulation of Charges – Medical**
3 **Services and Treatment**

4 FOR the purpose of clarifying that the authority of the Workers' Compensation
5 Commission to regulate charges for medical services or treatment includes the
6 authority to regulate fees charged by a medical expert for certain services; and
7 generally relating to the regulation of charges for medical services and
8 treatment by the Workers' Compensation Commission.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Labor and Employment
11 Section 9–663
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Labor and Employment**

17 9–663.

18 (a) (1) The Commission shall adopt regulations setting standards for the
19 assessment of fines under § 9–664 of this Part IX of this subtitle.

20 (2) The Commission may adopt regulations about:

21 (i) the provision of medicine and medical, nursing, and hospital
22 services to a covered employee;

23 (ii) payment for the medicine and services; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) the exercise by the Chairman of the Commission of the
2 powers granted under § 9-662 of this subtitle.

3 (b) (1) The Commission may regulate fees and other charges for medical
4 services or treatment under this subtitle, **INCLUDING FEES CHARGED BY A**
5 **MEDICAL EXPERT FOR THE EXAMINATION OF A COVERED EMPLOYEE, THE**
6 **PREPARATION OF A REPORT, TESTIMONY, OR SIMILAR SERVICES.**

7 (2) Each fee or other charge for medical service or treatment under
8 this subtitle is limited to the amount that prevails in the same community for similar
9 treatment of an injured individual with a standard of living that is comparable to that
10 of the covered employee.

11 (3) At least once every 2 years, the Commission shall:

12 (i) review its guide of medical and surgical fees for
13 completeness and reasonableness; and

14 (ii) make appropriate revisions to the guide of medical and
15 surgical fees.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2013.