HB0193/903929/1

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 193 (Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike beginning with "Additional" in line 2 down through "Amount" in line 3 and substitute "<u>Assessments and Special Monitor</u>"; in line 4, after "of" insert "<u>altering the circumstances under which the Uninsured Employers' Fund must collect</u> <u>or suspend a certain assessment;</u>"; in line 7, after "losses;" insert "<u>requiring the Workers'</u> <u>Compensation Commission to designate a certain special monitor for certain purposes;</u>"; and in line 10, after "9–1007" insert "<u>and 9–1011</u>".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, after line 4, insert:

"<u>9–1011.</u>

(a) (1) When the amount of the Fund equals at least [\$5,000,000] **\$10,000,000**, the payment of assessments by employers and insurers is suspended.

(2) The Director shall notify each self-insured employer and insurer of the suspension of the payment of assessments under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(b) (1) Payment of assessments shall be resumed if:

(i) the amount of the Fund becomes less than [\$3,000,000] **\$8,000,000** because of payments made under § 9–1002 of this subtitle or other payments; or

(ii) the Director determines that payments that are likely to be made from the Fund in the next 3 months will reduce the amount of the Fund to less than [\$3,000,000] **\$8,000,000**.

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(2) When payment of assessments is to be resumed under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Director shall notify each self-insured employer and insurer that payment of assessments is to:

(i) resume on a specified date; and

(ii) continue until the amount of the Fund becomes at least [\$5,000,000] **\$10,000,000**.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) <u>The Workers' Compensation Commission shall designate a special monitor</u> to assess the financial condition of the Uninsured Employers' Fund, including the reserve setting and third-party administrator practices of the Fund.

(b) The special monitor shall monitor the financial condition of the Fund for a period of up to 1 year, with the duties of the special monitor ending on or before June 30, 2026, unless an earlier date is agreed on by the Fund and the Commission.

(c) The special monitor shall submit to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article:

(1) on or before December 1, 2025, an interim report regarding the financial condition of the Uninsured Employers' Fund and any recommendations for legislative or regulatory changes necessary to improve the condition of the Fund; and

(2) on or before June 1, 2026, a final report regarding the financial condition of the Uninsured Employers' Fund and any recommendations for legislative or regulatory changes necessary to improve the condition of the Fund.

(d) <u>The Fund shall reimburse the monitor at a rate commensurate with the</u> rate the Commission pays to retired judges to hear cases before the Commission.

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(e) <u>The Fund shall allocate \$100,000 to provide funding for the special</u> <u>monitor.</u>";

in line 5, strike "2." and substitute "<u>3.</u>"; and in line 6, after "2025." insert "<u>Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2026, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.".</u>