

SENATE BILL 306

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5lr0818

By: **Senator Beidle**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workers' Compensation – Prescription Drug and Pharmaceutical Services –**
3 **Reimbursements**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Workers' Compensation Commission to regulate
5 fees and other charges for the reimbursement of prescription drugs and
6 pharmaceutical services; limiting reimbursements to a certain cost index or indexes;
7 and generally relating to reimbursement for prescription drugs and pharmaceutical
8 services under workers' compensation law.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Labor and Employment
11 Section 9–663
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 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 powers
2 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.

5 (2) (I) **THE COMMISSION SHALL REGULATE FEES AND OTHER**
6 **CHARGES FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND**
7 **PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

8 (II) **REIMBURSEMENT UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS**
9 **PARAGRAPH SHALL BE LIMITED TO AN INDEX OR INDEXES BASED ON ACQUISITION**
10 **COST, CALCULATED ON A PER UNIT BASIS, AS OF THE DATE OF DISPENSING AND MAY**
11 **INCLUDE REASONABLE DISPENSING FEES.**

12 (3) Each fee or other charge for medical service or treatment under this
13 subtitle is limited to the amount that prevails in the same community for similar treatment
14 of an injured individual with a standard of living that is comparable to that of the covered
15 employee.

16 [(3)] (4) At least once every 2 years, the Commission shall:

17 (i) review its guide of medical and surgical fees for completeness and
18 reasonableness; and

19 (ii) make appropriate revisions to the guide of medical and surgical
20 fees.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2025.