

SENATE BILL 522

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6lr2402
CF 6lr1579

By: Senator M. Washington

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workers' Compensation – Evaluation of Permanent Impairments – Licensed**
3 **Social Worker–Clinical**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a licensed certified social worker–clinical to provide
5 evaluation services for workers' compensation claims related to permanent
6 impairments involving a behavioral or mental disorder; requiring a licensed certified
7 social worker–clinical to meet certain requirements to perform the evaluation
8 services; and generally relating to the evaluation of permanent impairments by
9 licensed certified social workers–clinical under the workers' compensation law.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Labor and Employment
12 Section 9–721(c)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2025 Replacement Volume)

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Labor and Employment
17 Section 9–721(d)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2025 Replacement Volume)

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

22 **Article – Labor and Employment**

23 9–721.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



4 (1) perform an evaluation of only the mental or behavioral portion of the
5 permanent impairment; and

6 (2) report the evaluation to the Commission in accordance with the
7 regulations of the Commission.

8 (D) TO PERFORM AND REPORT AN EVALUATION UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF
9 THIS SECTION, A LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL MUST:

10 (1) MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR EVALUATION, DIAGNOSIS, AND
11 TREATMENT OF:

12 (I) BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL CONDITIONS;

15 (III) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDERS INCLUDING
16 SUBSTANCE-RELATED DISORDERS, ADDICTIVE DISORDERS, AND MENTAL
17 DISORDERS, AS THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN § 7.5-101 OF
18 THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE;

25 (4) BE AN AUTHORIZED PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN COMAR
26 14.09.08.01.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2026.