

BILL NO: SB 306

TITLE: Worker's Compensation – Prescription Drug and Pharmaceutical Services – Reimbursements

SPONSOR: Senator Beidle

COMMITTEE: Economic Matters

POSITION: SUPPORT

DATE: March 26, 2025

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 306 – Worker's Compensation – Prescription Drug and Pharmaceutical Services – Reimbursements. The legislation requires the State Workers' Compensation Commission to regulate the reimbursement charges for prescription drugs and pharmaceutical services by establishing a cost index.

While medical bills are currently regulated by a fee schedule for worker's compensation, no such framework currently exists for prescription drugs. Workers' compensation claims remain a significant cost driver for Baltimore County government, and the absence of an established fee schedule or guide for prescription drug charges results in higher costs to the county and higher insurance premiums for our employees.

Maryland county governments are already facing unprecedented challenges, including federal and state budget cuts, declining revenues, and dramatically increased costs. SB 306 is a reasonable and meaningful proposal that if enacted will benefit Baltimore County by curbing excessive costs and aligning prescription drug pricing with industry standards.

Accordingly, Baltimore County urges a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 306 from the Economic Matters Committee. For more information, please contact Amanda Carr, Office of Government Affairs at <u>acarr@baltimorecountymd.gov</u>