

1 AN ACT concerning employment.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Insurance Code is amended by
5 changing Sections 456, 457, and 458 and by adding Section 462a
6 as follows:

7 (215 ILCS 5/456) (from Ch. 73, par. 1065.3)

8 Sec. 456. Making of rates. (1) All rates shall be made in
9 accordance with the following provisions:

10 (a) Due consideration shall be given to past and
11 prospective loss experience within and outside this state, to
12 catastrophe hazards, if any, to a reasonable margin for profit
13 and contingencies, to dividends, savings or unabsorbed premium
14 deposits allowed or returned by companies to their
15 policyholders, members or subscribers, to past and prospective
16 expenses both countrywide and those specially applicable to
17 this state, to underwriting practice and judgment and to all
18 other relevant factors within and outside this state;

19 (b) The systems of expense provisions included in the rates
20 for use by any company or group of companies may differ from
21 those of other companies or groups of companies to reflect the
22 requirements of the operating methods of any such company or
23 group with respect to any kind of insurance, or with respect to

1 any subdivision or combination thereof for which subdivision or
2 combination separate expense provisions are applicable;

3 (c) Risks may be grouped by classifications for the
4 establishment of rates and minimum premiums. Classification
5 rates may be modified to produce rates for individual risks in
6 accordance with rating plans which measure variation in hazards
7 or expense provisions, or both. Such rating plans may measure
8 any differences among risks that have a probable effect upon
9 losses or expenses;

10 (d) Rates shall not be excessive, inadequate or unfairly
11 discriminatory.

12 ~~A rate in a competitive market is not excessive. A rate in~~
13 ~~a noncompetitive market~~ is excessive if it is likely to produce
14 a ~~long-run~~ profit that is unreasonably high for the insurance
15 provided or if expenses are unreasonably high in relation to
16 the services rendered.

17 A rate is not inadequate unless such rate is clearly
18 insufficient to sustain projected losses and expenses in the
19 class of business to which it applies and the use of such rate
20 has or, if continued, will have the effect of substantially
21 lessening competition or the tendency to create monopoly in any
22 market.

23 Unfair discrimination exists if, after allowing for
24 practical limitations, price differentials fail to reflect
25 equitably the differences in expected losses and expenses. A
26 rate is not unfairly discriminatory because different premiums

1 result for policyholders with like exposures but different
2 expenses, or like expenses but different loss exposures, so
3 long as the rate reflects the differences with reasonable
4 accuracy.

5 (e) The rating plan shall contain a mandatory offer of a
6 deductible applicable only to the medical benefit under the
7 Workers' Compensation Act. Such deductible offer shall be in a
8 minimum amount of at least \$1,000 per accident.

9 (f) Any rating plan or program shall include a rule
10 permitting 2 or more employers with similar risk
11 characteristics, who participate in a loss prevention program
12 or safety group, to pool their premium and loss experience in
13 determining their rate or premium for such participation in the
14 program.

15 (2) Except to the extent necessary to meet the provisions
16 of subdivision (d) of subsection (1) of this Section,
17 uniformity among companies in any matters within the scope of
18 this Section is neither required nor prohibited.

19 (Source: P.A. 82-939.)

20 (215 ILCS 5/457) (from Ch. 73, par. 1065.4)

21 Sec. 457. Rate filings. (1) ~~Every Beginning January 1,~~
22 ~~1983, every~~ company shall prefile ~~file~~ with the Director every
23 manual of classifications, every manual of rules and rates,
24 every rating plan and every modification of the foregoing which
25 it intends to use. Such filings shall be made at least ~~not~~

1 ~~later than~~ 30 days before ~~after~~ they become effective. A
2 company may satisfy its obligation to make such filings by
3 adopting the filing of a licensed rating organization of which
4 it is a member or subscriber, filed pursuant to subsection (2)
5 of this Section, in total or, with the approval of the
6 Director, by notifying the Director in what respects it intends
7 ~~to~~ deviate from such filing. If a company intends to deviate
8 from the filing of a licensed rating organization of which it
9 is a member, the company shall provide the Director with
10 supporting information that specifies the basis for the
11 requested deviation and provides justification for the
12 deviation. Any company adopting a pure premium filed by a
13 rating organization pursuant to subsection (2) must file with
14 the Director the modification factor it is using for expenses
15 and profit so that the final rates in use by such company can
16 be determined.

17 (2) Each ~~Beginning January 1, 1983, each~~ licensed rating
18 organization must prefile ~~file~~ with the Director every manual
19 of classification, every manual of rules and advisory rates,
20 every pure premium which has been fully adjusted and fully
21 developed, every rating plan and every modification of any of
22 the foregoing which it intends to recommend for use to its
23 members and subscribers, at least ~~not later than~~ 30 days before
24 ~~after~~ such manual, premium, plan or modification thereof takes
25 effect. Every licensed rating organization shall also file with
26 the Director the rate classification system, all rating rules,

1 rating plans, policy forms, underwriting rules or similar
2 materials, and each modification of any of the foregoing which
3 it requires its members and subscribers to adhere to not later
4 than 30 days before such filings or modifications thereof are
5 to take effect. Every such filing shall state the proposed
6 effective date thereof and shall indicate the character and
7 extent of the coverage contemplated.

8 (3) A filing and any supporting information made pursuant
9 to this Section shall be open to public inspection as soon as
10 filed ~~after the filing becomes effective.~~

11 (4) A filing shall not be effective nor used until approved
12 by the Director. A filing shall be deemed approved if the
13 Director fails to disapprove within 30 days after the filing.

14 (Source: P.A. 82-939.)

15 (215 ILCS 5/458) (from Ch. 73, par. 1065.5)

16 Sec. 458. Disapproval of filings. (1) If within 30 ~~thirty~~
17 days of any filing the Director finds that such filing does not
18 meet the requirements of this Article, he shall send to the
19 company or rating organization which made such filing a written
20 notice of disapproval of such filing, specifying therein in
21 what respects he finds that such filing fails to meet the
22 requirements of this Article ~~and stating when, within a~~
23 ~~reasonable period thereafter, such filing shall be deemed no~~
24 ~~longer effective.~~ A company or rating organization whose filing
25 has been disapproved shall be given a hearing upon a written

1 request made within 30 days after the disapproval order. ~~If the~~
2 ~~company or rating organization making the filing shall, prior~~
3 ~~to the expiration of the period prescribed in the notice,~~
4 ~~request a hearing, such filings shall be effective until the~~
5 ~~expiration of a reasonable period specified in any order~~
6 ~~entered thereon. If the rate resulting from such filing be~~
7 ~~unfairly discriminatory or materially inadequate, and the~~
8 ~~difference between such rate and the approved rate equals or~~
9 ~~exceeds the cost of making an adjustment, the Director shall in~~
10 ~~such notice or order direct an adjustment of the premium to be~~
11 ~~made with the policyholder either by refund or collection of~~
12 ~~additional premium. If the policyholder does not accept the~~
13 ~~increased rate, cancellation shall be made on a pro rata basis.~~
14 ~~Any policy issued pursuant to this subsection shall contain a~~
15 ~~provision that the premium thereon shall be subject to~~
16 ~~adjustment upon the basis of the filing finally approved.~~

17 (2) If at any time subsequent to the applicable review
18 period provided for in subsection (1) of this Section, the
19 Director finds that a filing does not meet the requirements of
20 this Article, he shall, after a hearing held upon not less than
21 ten days written notice, specifying the matters to be
22 considered at such hearing, to every company and rating
23 organization which made such filing, issue an order specifying
24 in what respects he finds that such filing fails to meet the
25 requirements of this Article, and stating when, within a
26 reasonable period thereafter, such filings shall be deemed no

1 longer effective. Copies of said order shall be sent to every
2 such company and rating organization. Said order shall not
3 affect any contract or policy made or issued prior to the
4 expiration of the period set forth in said order.

5 (3) Any person or organization aggrieved with respect to
6 any filing which is in effect may make written application to
7 the Director for a hearing thereon, provided, however, that the
8 company or rating organization that made the filing shall not
9 be authorized to proceed under this subsection. Such
10 application shall specify the grounds to be relied upon by the
11 applicant. If the Director shall find that the application is
12 made in good faith, that the applicant would be so aggrieved if
13 his grounds are established, and that such grounds otherwise
14 justify holding such a hearing, he shall, within thirty days
15 after receipt of such application, hold a hearing upon not less
16 than ten days written notice to the applicant and to every
17 company and rating organization which made such filing.

18 If, after such hearing, the Director finds that the filing
19 does not meet the requirements of this Article, he shall issue
20 an order specifying in what respects he finds that such filing
21 fails to meet the requirements of this Article, and stating
22 when, within a reasonable period thereafter, such filing shall
23 be deemed no longer effective. Copies of said order shall be
24 sent to the applicant and to every such company and rating
25 organization. Said order shall not affect any contract or
26 policy made or issued prior to the expiration of the period set

1 forth in said order.

2 (4) Whenever an insurer has no legally effective rates as a
3 result of the Director's disapproval of rates or other act, the
4 Director shall on request of the insurer specify interim rates
5 for the insurer that are high enough to protect the interests
6 of all parties and may order that a specified portion of the
7 premiums be placed in an escrow account approved by him or her.
8 When new rates become legally effective, the Director shall
9 order the escrowed funds or any overcharge in the interim rates
10 to be distributed appropriately, except that refunds to
11 policyholders that are de minimis shall not be required.

12 (Source: P.A. 82-939.)

13 (215 ILCS 5/462a new)

14 Sec. 462a. Premiums; review.

15 (a) Premiums shall not be excessive. A premium is excessive
16 if it is likely to produce a profit that is unreasonably high
17 for the insurance provided or if expenses are unreasonably high
18 in relation to the coverage or services rendered.

19 (b) At any time, an insured may file a request for review
20 of a premium with the Director. The request shall be in such
21 form as the Director prescribes and shall specify the grounds
22 on which the premium is excessive.

23 If, within 30 days of any proper request for review under
24 this Section, the Director finds that the premium does not meet
25 the requirements of this Section, he or she shall send to the

1 insurer a written notice of disapproval of premium, specifying
2 therein in what respects he or she finds that the premium fails
3 to meet the requirements of this Section, stating when, within
4 a reasonable period thereafter, the premium shall be deemed no
5 longer effective, and ordering an adjustment of the premium. An
6 insurer whose premium has been disapproved shall be given a
7 hearing upon a written request made within 30 days after the
8 disapproval order. If the insurer requests a hearing, the
9 premium shall be effective until the expiration of a reasonable
10 period specified in any order entered thereon. If, after a
11 hearing, the premium is found to be excessive, the Director
12 shall order an adjustment of the premium. The insurer shall
13 refund to the insured any amount found to be excessive under
14 this Section.

15 If the Director finds that a review is not warranted or a
16 premium is not excessive, he or she shall provide notice of
17 that decision to the insured and the insurer.

18 (c) An insurer shall provide all information requested by
19 the Director as he or she determines necessary to assist in
20 review of premiums under this Section.

21 (215 ILCS 5/460 rep.)

22 Section 10. The Illinois Insurance Code is amended by
23 repealing Section 460.

24 Section 15. The Workers' Compensation Act is amended by

1 changing Sections 1, 8, 8.1b, 8.2, 8.2a, 14, 19, 25.5, and 29.2
2 and by adding Sections 4e, 8.1, and 29.3 as follows:

3 (820 ILCS 305/1) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.1)

4 Sec. 1. This Act may be cited as the Workers' Compensation
5 Act.

6 (a) The term "employer" as used in this Act means:

7 1. The State and each county, city, town, township,
8 incorporated village, school district, body politic, or
9 municipal corporation therein.

10 2. Every person, firm, public or private corporation,
11 including hospitals, public service, eleemosynary, religious
12 or charitable corporations or associations who has any person
13 in service or under any contract for hire, express or implied,
14 oral or written, and who is engaged in any of the enterprises
15 or businesses enumerated in Section 3 of this Act, or who at or
16 prior to the time of the accident to the employee for which
17 compensation under this Act may be claimed, has in the manner
18 provided in this Act elected to become subject to the
19 provisions of this Act, and who has not, prior to such
20 accident, effected a withdrawal of such election in the manner
21 provided in this Act.

22 3. Any one engaging in any business or enterprise referred
23 to in subsections 1 and 2 of Section 3 of this Act who
24 undertakes to do any work enumerated therein, is liable to pay
25 compensation to his own immediate employees in accordance with

1 the provisions of this Act, and in addition thereto if he
2 directly or indirectly engages any contractor whether
3 principal or sub-contractor to do any such work, he is liable
4 to pay compensation to the employees of any such contractor or
5 sub-contractor unless such contractor or sub-contractor has
6 insured, in any company or association authorized under the
7 laws of this State to insure the liability to pay compensation
8 under this Act, or guaranteed his liability to pay such
9 compensation. With respect to any time limitation on the filing
10 of claims provided by this Act, the timely filing of a claim
11 against a contractor or subcontractor, as the case may be,
12 shall be deemed to be a timely filing with respect to all
13 persons upon whom liability is imposed by this paragraph.

14 In the event any such person pays compensation under this
15 subsection he may recover the amount thereof from the
16 contractor or sub-contractor, if any, and in the event the
17 contractor pays compensation under this subsection he may
18 recover the amount thereof from the sub-contractor, if any.

19 This subsection does not apply in any case where the
20 accident occurs elsewhere than on, in or about the immediate
21 premises on which the principal has contracted that the work be
22 done.

23 4. Where an employer operating under and subject to the
24 provisions of this Act loans an employee to another such
25 employer and such loaned employee sustains a compensable
26 accidental injury in the employment of such borrowing employer

1 and where such borrowing employer does not provide or pay the
2 benefits or payments due such injured employee, such loaning
3 employer is liable to provide or pay all benefits or payments
4 due such employee under this Act and as to such employee the
5 liability of such loaning and borrowing employers is joint and
6 several, provided that such loaning employer is in the absence
7 of agreement to the contrary entitled to receive from such
8 borrowing employer full reimbursement for all sums paid or
9 incurred pursuant to this paragraph together with reasonable
10 attorneys' fees and expenses in any hearings before the
11 Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or in any action to
12 secure such reimbursement. Where any benefit is provided or
13 paid by such loaning employer the employee has the duty of
14 rendering reasonable cooperation in any hearings, trials or
15 proceedings in the case, including such proceedings for
16 reimbursement.

17 Where an employee files an Application for Adjustment of
18 Claim with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission
19 alleging that his claim is covered by the provisions of the
20 preceding paragraph, and joining both the alleged loaning and
21 borrowing employers, they and each of them, upon written demand
22 by the employee and within 7 days after receipt of such demand,
23 shall have the duty of filing with the Illinois Workers'
24 Compensation Commission a written admission or denial of the
25 allegation that the claim is covered by the provisions of the
26 preceding paragraph and in default of such filing or if any

1 such denial be ultimately determined not to have been bona fide
2 then the provisions of Paragraph K of Section 19 of this Act
3 shall apply.

4 An employer whose business or enterprise or a substantial
5 part thereof consists of hiring, procuring or furnishing
6 employees to or for other employers operating under and subject
7 to the provisions of this Act for the performance of the work
8 of such other employers and who pays such employees their
9 salary or wages notwithstanding that they are doing the work of
10 such other employers shall be deemed a loaning employer within
11 the meaning and provisions of this Section.

12 (b) The term "employee" as used in this Act means:

13 1. Every person in the service of the State, including
14 members of the General Assembly, members of the Commerce
15 Commission, members of the Illinois Workers' Compensation
16 Commission, and all persons in the service of the University of
17 Illinois, county, including deputy sheriffs and assistant
18 state's attorneys, city, town, township, incorporated village
19 or school district, body politic, or municipal corporation
20 therein, whether by election, under appointment or contract of
21 hire, express or implied, oral or written, including all
22 members of the Illinois National Guard while on active duty in
23 the service of the State, and all probation personnel of the
24 Juvenile Court appointed pursuant to Article VI of the Juvenile
25 Court Act of 1987, and including any official of the State, any
26 county, city, town, township, incorporated village, school

1 district, body politic or municipal corporation therein except
2 any duly appointed member of a police department in any city
3 whose population exceeds 500,000 according to the last Federal
4 or State census, and except any member of a fire insurance
5 patrol maintained by a board of underwriters in this State. A
6 duly appointed member of a fire department in any city, the
7 population of which exceeds 500,000 according to the last
8 federal or State census, is an employee under this Act only
9 with respect to claims brought under paragraph (c) of Section
10 8.

11 One employed by a contractor who has contracted with the
12 State, or a county, city, town, township, incorporated village,
13 school district, body politic or municipal corporation
14 therein, through its representatives, is not considered as an
15 employee of the State, county, city, town, township,
16 incorporated village, school district, body politic or
17 municipal corporation which made the contract.

18 2. Every person in the service of another under any
19 contract of hire, express or implied, oral or written,
20 including persons whose employment is outside of the State of
21 Illinois where the contract of hire is made within the State of
22 Illinois, persons whose employment results in fatal or
23 non-fatal injuries within the State of Illinois where the
24 contract of hire is made outside of the State of Illinois, and
25 persons whose employment is principally localized within the
26 State of Illinois, regardless of the place of the accident or

1 the place where the contract of hire was made, and including
2 aliens, and minors who, for the purpose of this Act are
3 considered the same and have the same power to contract,
4 receive payments and give quittances therefor, as adult
5 employees.

6 3. Every sole proprietor and every partner of a business
7 may elect to be covered by this Act.

8 An employee or his dependents under this Act who shall have
9 a cause of action by reason of any injury, disablement or death
10 arising out of and in the course of his employment may elect to
11 pursue his remedy in the State where injured or disabled, or in
12 the State where the contract of hire is made, or in the State
13 where the employment is principally localized.

14 However, any employer may elect to provide and pay
15 compensation to any employee other than those engaged in the
16 usual course of the trade, business, profession or occupation
17 of the employer by complying with Sections 2 and 4 of this Act.
18 Employees are not included within the provisions of this Act
19 when excluded by the laws of the United States relating to
20 liability of employers to their employees for personal injuries
21 where such laws are held to be exclusive.

22 The term "employee" does not include persons performing
23 services as real estate broker, broker-salesman, or salesman
24 when such persons are paid by commission only.

25 (c) "Commission" means the Industrial Commission created
26 by Section 5 of "The Civil Administrative Code of Illinois",

1 approved March 7, 1917, as amended, or the Illinois Workers'
2 Compensation Commission created by Section 13 of this Act.

3 (d) To obtain compensation under this Act, an employee
4 bears the burden of showing, by a preponderance of the
5 evidence, that he or she has sustained accidental injuries
6 arising out of and in the course of the employment. Except as
7 provided in subsection (e) of this Section, accidental injuries
8 sustained while traveling to or from work do not arise out of
9 and in the course of employment.

10 For the purposes of this subsection (d):

11 "In the course of employment" refers to the time, place,
12 and circumstances surrounding the accidental injuries.

13 "Arising out of the employment" refers to causal
14 connection. It must be shown that the injury had its origin in
15 some risk connected with, or incidental to, the employment so
16 as to create a causal connection between the employment and the
17 accidental injuries. An injury arises out of the employment if,
18 at the time of the occurrence, the employee was performing acts
19 he or she was instructed to perform by his or her employer,
20 acts which he or she had a common law or statutory duty to
21 perform, or acts which the employee might reasonably be
22 expected to perform incident to his or her assigned duties. A
23 risk is incidental to the employment where it belongs to or is
24 connected with what an employee has to do in fulfilling his or
25 her duties.

26 (e) Where an employee is required to travel away from his

1 or her employer's premises in order to perform his or her job,
2 the traveling employee's accidental injuries arise out of his
3 or her employment, and are in the course of his or her
4 employment, when the conduct in which he or she was engaged at
5 the time of the injury is reasonable and when that conduct
6 might have been anticipated or foreseen by the employer.
7 Accidental injuries while traveling do not occur in the course
8 of employment if the accident occurs during a purely personal
9 deviation or personal errand unless such deviation or errand is
10 insubstantial.

11 In determining whether an employee was required to travel
12 away from his or her employer's premises in order to perform
13 his or her job, along with all other relevant factors, the
14 following factors may be considered: whether the employer had
15 knowledge that the employee may be required to travel to
16 perform the job; whether the employer furnished any mode of
17 transportation to or from the employee; whether the employee
18 received, or the employer paid or agreed to pay, any
19 remuneration or reimbursement for costs or expenses of any form
20 of travel; whether the employer in any way directed the course
21 or method of travel; whether the employer in any way assisted
22 the employee in making any travel arrangements; whether the
23 employer furnished lodging or in any way reimbursed the
24 employee for lodging; and whether the employer received any
25 benefit from the employee traveling.

26 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11; 97-268, eff. 8-8-11; 97-813,

1 eff. 7-13-12.)

2 (820 ILCS 305/4e new)

3 Sec. 4e. Safety programs and return to work programs;
4 recalculation of premiums and waiver of self-insurers fee.

5 (a) An employer may file with the Commission a workers'
6 compensation safety program or a workers' compensation return
7 to work program implemented by the employer. The Commission may
8 certify any such safety program as a bona fide safety program
9 after reviewing the program for the following minimum
10 requirements: adequate safety training for employees;
11 establishment of joint employer-employee safety committees;
12 use of safety devices; and consultation with safety
13 organizations. The Commission may certify any such return to
14 work program as a bona fide return to work program after
15 reviewing the program for the following minimum requirements:
16 light duty or restricted duty work; leave of absence policy;
17 and full duty return to work policy. The Commission shall
18 notify the Department of Insurance of the certification.

19 (b) Upon receipt of a certification notice from the
20 Commission under this Section related to an employer that
21 provides workers' compensation through an insurer, the
22 Director of Insurance shall immediately direct in writing the
23 employer's workers' compensation insurer to recalculate the
24 workers' compensation premium rates for the employer so that
25 those premium rates incorporate and take into account the

1 certified program.

2 (c) If any workers' compensation safety program or a
3 workers' compensation return to work program implemented by a
4 self-insured employer is certified under this Section, the
5 annual fee under Section 4d of this Act shall be reduced by 30%
6 for the self-insured employer as long as the workers'
7 compensation safety program or a workers' compensation return
8 to work program continues. The self-insured employer shall
9 certify the continuation of the program by each July 1 after
10 the waiver is obtained.

11 (820 ILCS 305/8) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.8)

12 Sec. 8. The amount of compensation which shall be paid to
13 the employee for an accidental injury not resulting in death
14 is:

15 (a) The employer shall provide and pay the negotiated rate,
16 if applicable, or the lesser of the health care provider's
17 actual charges or according to a fee schedule, subject to
18 Section 8.2, in effect at the time the service was rendered for
19 all the necessary first aid, medical and surgical services, and
20 all necessary medical, surgical and hospital services
21 thereafter incurred, limited, however, to that which is
22 reasonably required to cure or relieve from the effects of the
23 accidental injury, even if a health care provider sells,
24 transfers, or otherwise assigns an account receivable for
25 procedures, treatments, or services covered under this Act. If

1 the employer does not dispute payment of first aid, medical,
2 surgical, and hospital services, the employer shall make such
3 payment to the provider on behalf of the employee. The employer
4 shall also pay for treatment, instruction and training
5 necessary for the physical, mental and vocational
6 rehabilitation of the employee, including all maintenance
7 costs and expenses incidental thereto. If as a result of the
8 injury the employee is unable to be self-sufficient the
9 employer shall further pay for such maintenance or
10 institutional care as shall be required.

11 The employee may at any time elect to secure his own
12 physician, surgeon and hospital services at the employer's
13 expense, or,

14 Upon agreement between the employer and the employees, or
15 the employees' exclusive representative, and subject to the
16 approval of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, the
17 employer shall maintain a list of physicians, to be known as a
18 Panel of Physicians, who are accessible to the employees. The
19 employer shall post this list in a place or places easily
20 accessible to his employees. The employee shall have the right
21 to make an alternative choice of physician from such Panel if
22 he is not satisfied with the physician first selected. If, due
23 to the nature of the injury or its occurrence away from the
24 employer's place of business, the employee is unable to make a
25 selection from the Panel, the selection process from the Panel
26 shall not apply. The physician selected from the Panel may

1 arrange for any consultation, referral or other specialized
2 medical services outside the Panel at the employer's expense.
3 Provided that, in the event the Commission shall find that a
4 doctor selected by the employee is rendering improper or
5 inadequate care, the Commission may order the employee to
6 select another doctor certified or qualified in the medical
7 field for which treatment is required. If the employee refuses
8 to make such change the Commission may relieve the employer of
9 his obligation to pay the doctor's charges from the date of
10 refusal to the date of compliance.

11 Any vocational rehabilitation counselors who provide
12 service under this Act shall have appropriate certifications
13 which designate the counselor as qualified to render opinions
14 relating to vocational rehabilitation. Vocational
15 rehabilitation may include, but is not limited to, counseling
16 for job searches, supervising a job search program, and
17 vocational retraining including education at an accredited
18 learning institution. The employee or employer may petition to
19 the Commission to decide disputes relating to vocational
20 rehabilitation and the Commission shall resolve any such
21 dispute, including payment of the vocational rehabilitation
22 program by the employer.

23 The maintenance benefit shall not be less than the
24 temporary total disability rate determined for the employee. In
25 addition, maintenance shall include costs and expenses
26 incidental to the vocational rehabilitation program.

1 When the employee is working light duty on a part-time
2 basis or full-time basis and earns less than he or she would be
3 earning if employed in the full capacity of the job or jobs,
4 then the employee shall be entitled to temporary partial
5 disability benefits. Temporary partial disability benefits
6 shall be equal to two-thirds of the difference between the
7 average amount that the employee would be able to earn in the
8 full performance of his or her duties in the occupation in
9 which he or she was engaged at the time of accident and the
10 gross amount which he or she is earning in the modified job
11 provided to the employee by the employer or in any other job
12 that the employee is working.

13 Every hospital, physician, surgeon or other person
14 rendering treatment or services in accordance with the
15 provisions of this Section shall upon written request furnish
16 full and complete reports thereof to, and permit their records
17 to be copied by, the employer, the employee or his dependents,
18 as the case may be, or any other party to any proceeding for
19 compensation before the Commission, or their attorneys.

20 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the employer's liability to
21 pay for such medical services selected by the employee shall be
22 limited to:

- 23 (1) all first aid and emergency treatment; plus
24 (2) all medical, surgical and hospital services
25 provided by the physician, surgeon or hospital initially
26 chosen by the employee or by any other physician,

1 consultant, expert, institution or other provider of
2 services recommended by said initial service provider or
3 any subsequent provider of medical services in the chain of
4 referrals from said initial service provider; plus

5 (3) all medical, surgical and hospital services
6 provided by any second physician, surgeon or hospital
7 subsequently chosen by the employee or by any other
8 physician, consultant, expert, institution or other
9 provider of services recommended by said second service
10 provider or any subsequent provider of medical services in
11 the chain of referrals from said second service provider.
12 Thereafter the employer shall select and pay for all
13 necessary medical, surgical and hospital treatment and the
14 employee may not select a provider of medical services at
15 the employer's expense unless the employer agrees to such
16 selection. At any time the employee may obtain any medical
17 treatment he desires at his own expense. This paragraph
18 shall not affect the duty to pay for rehabilitation
19 referred to above.

20 (4) The following shall apply for injuries occurring on
21 or after June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act
22 97-18) and only when an employer has an approved preferred
23 provider program pursuant to Section 8.1a on the date the
24 employee sustained his or her accidental injuries:

25 (A) The employer shall, in writing, on a form
26 promulgated by the Commission, inform the employee of

1 the preferred provider program;

2 (B) Subsequent to the report of an injury by an
3 employee, the employee may choose in writing at any
4 time to decline the preferred provider program, in
5 which case that would constitute one of the two choices
6 of medical providers to which the employee is entitled
7 under subsection (a) (2) or (a) (3); and

8 (C) Prior to the report of an injury by an
9 employee, when an employee chooses non-emergency
10 treatment from a provider not within the preferred
11 provider program, that would constitute the employee's
12 one choice of medical providers to which the employee
13 is entitled under subsection (a) (2) or (a) (3).

14 When an employer and employee so agree in writing, nothing
15 in this Act prevents an employee whose injury or disability has
16 been established under this Act, from relying in good faith, on
17 treatment by prayer or spiritual means alone, in accordance
18 with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or
19 religious denomination, by a duly accredited practitioner
20 thereof, and having nursing services appropriate therewith,
21 without suffering loss or diminution of the compensation
22 benefits under this Act. However, the employee shall submit to
23 all physical examinations required by this Act. The cost of
24 such treatment and nursing care shall be paid by the employee
25 unless the employer agrees to make such payment.

26 Where the accidental injury results in the amputation of an

1 arm, hand, leg or foot, or the enucleation of an eye, or the
2 loss of any of the natural teeth, the employer shall furnish an
3 artificial of any such members lost or damaged in accidental
4 injury arising out of and in the course of employment, and
5 shall also furnish the necessary braces in all proper and
6 necessary cases. In cases of the loss of a member or members by
7 amputation, the employer shall, whenever necessary, maintain
8 in good repair, refit or replace the artificial limbs during
9 the lifetime of the employee. Where the accidental injury
10 accompanied by physical injury results in damage to a denture,
11 eye glasses or contact eye lenses, or where the accidental
12 injury results in damage to an artificial member, the employer
13 shall replace or repair such denture, glasses, lenses, or
14 artificial member.

15 The furnishing by the employer of any such services or
16 appliances is not an admission of liability on the part of the
17 employer to pay compensation.

18 The furnishing of any such services or appliances or the
19 servicing thereof by the employer is not the payment of
20 compensation.

21 (b) If the period of temporary total incapacity for work
22 lasts more than 3 working days, weekly compensation as
23 hereinafter provided shall be paid beginning on the 4th day of
24 such temporary total incapacity and continuing as long as the
25 total temporary incapacity lasts. The foregoing
26 notwithstanding, in the case of an employee who is employed as

1 a volunteer, paid-on-call, or part-time firefighter, emergency
2 medical technician, or paramedic or in ~~in~~ cases where the
3 temporary total incapacity for work continues for a period of
4 14 days or more from the day of the accident compensation shall
5 commence on the day after the accident.

6 1. The compensation rate for temporary total
7 incapacity under this paragraph (b) of this Section shall
8 be equal to 66 2/3% of the employee's average weekly wage
9 computed in accordance with Section 10, provided that it
10 shall be not less than 66 2/3% of the sum of the Federal
11 minimum wage under the Fair Labor Standards Act, or the
12 Illinois minimum wage under the Minimum Wage Law, whichever
13 is more, multiplied by 40 hours. This percentage rate shall
14 be increased by 10% for each spouse and child, not to
15 exceed 100% of the total minimum wage calculation, nor
16 exceed the employee's average weekly wage computed in
17 accordance with the provisions of Section 10, whichever is
18 less.

19 2. The compensation rate in all cases other than for
20 temporary total disability under this paragraph (b), and
21 other than for serious and permanent disfigurement under
22 paragraph (c) and other than for permanent partial
23 disability under subparagraph (2) of paragraph (d) or under
24 paragraph (e), of this Section shall be equal to 66 2/3% of
25 the employee's average weekly wage computed in accordance
26 with the provisions of Section 10, provided that it shall

1 be not less than 66 2/3% of the sum of the Federal minimum
2 wage under the Fair Labor Standards Act, or the Illinois
3 minimum wage under the Minimum Wage Law, whichever is more,
4 multiplied by 40 hours. This percentage rate shall be
5 increased by 10% for each spouse and child, not to exceed
6 100% of the total minimum wage calculation, nor exceed the
7 employee's average weekly wage computed in accordance with
8 the provisions of Section 10, whichever is less.

9 2.1. The compensation rate in all cases of serious and
10 permanent disfigurement under paragraph (c) and of
11 permanent partial disability under subparagraph (2) of
12 paragraph (d) or under paragraph (e) of this Section shall
13 be equal to 60% of the employee's average weekly wage
14 computed in accordance with the provisions of Section 10,
15 provided that it shall be not less than 66 2/3% of the sum
16 of the Federal minimum wage under the Fair Labor Standards
17 Act, or the Illinois minimum wage under the Minimum Wage
18 Law, whichever is more, multiplied by 40 hours. This
19 percentage rate shall be increased by 10% for each spouse
20 and child, not to exceed 100% of the total minimum wage
21 calculation, nor exceed the employee's average weekly wage
22 computed in accordance with the provisions of Section 10,
23 whichever is less.

24 3. As used in this Section the term "child" means a
25 child of the employee including any child legally adopted
26 before the accident or whom at the time of the accident the

1 employee was under legal obligation to support or to whom
2 the employee stood in loco parentis, and who at the time of
3 the accident was under 18 years of age and not emancipated.
4 The term "children" means the plural of "child".

5 4. All weekly compensation rates provided under
6 subparagraphs 1, 2 and 2.1 of this paragraph (b) of this
7 Section shall be subject to the following limitations:

8 The maximum weekly compensation rate from July 1, 1975,
9 except as hereinafter provided, shall be 100% of the
10 State's average weekly wage in covered industries under the
11 Unemployment Insurance Act, that being the wage that most
12 closely approximates the State's average weekly wage.

13 The maximum weekly compensation rate, for the period
14 July 1, 1984, through June 30, 1987, except as hereinafter
15 provided, shall be \$293.61. Effective July 1, 1987 and on
16 July 1 of each year thereafter the maximum weekly
17 compensation rate, except as hereinafter provided, shall
18 be determined as follows: if during the preceding 12 month
19 period there shall have been an increase in the State's
20 average weekly wage in covered industries under the
21 Unemployment Insurance Act, the weekly compensation rate
22 shall be proportionately increased by the same percentage
23 as the percentage of increase in the State's average weekly
24 wage in covered industries under the Unemployment
25 Insurance Act during such period.

26 The maximum weekly compensation rate, for the period

1 January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1983, except as
2 hereinafter provided, shall be 100% of the State's average
3 weekly wage in covered industries under the Unemployment
4 Insurance Act in effect on January 1, 1981. Effective
5 January 1, 1984 and on January 1, of each year thereafter
6 the maximum weekly compensation rate, except as
7 hereinafter provided, shall be determined as follows: if
8 during the preceding 12 month period there shall have been
9 an increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
10 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act, the
11 weekly compensation rate shall be proportionately
12 increased by the same percentage as the percentage of
13 increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
14 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act during
15 such period.

16 From July 1, 1977 and thereafter such maximum weekly
17 compensation rate in death cases under Section 7, and
18 permanent total disability cases under paragraph (f) or
19 subparagraph 18 of paragraph (3) of this Section and for
20 temporary total disability under paragraph (b) of this
21 Section and for amputation of a member or enucleation of an
22 eye under paragraph (e) of this Section shall be increased
23 to 133-1/3% of the State's average weekly wage in covered
24 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

25 For injuries occurring on or after February 1, 2006,
26 the maximum weekly benefit under paragraph (d)1 of this

1 Section shall be 100% of the State's average weekly wage in
2 covered industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

3 4.1. Any provision herein to the contrary
4 notwithstanding, the weekly compensation rate for
5 compensation payments under subparagraph 18 of paragraph
6 (e) of this Section and under paragraph (f) of this Section
7 and under paragraph (a) of Section 7 and for amputation of
8 a member or enucleation of an eye under paragraph (e) of
9 this Section, shall in no event be less than 50% of the
10 State's average weekly wage in covered industries under the
11 Unemployment Insurance Act.

12 4.2. Any provision to the contrary notwithstanding,
13 the total compensation payable under Section 7 shall not
14 exceed the greater of \$500,000 or 25 years.

15 5. For the purpose of this Section this State's average
16 weekly wage in covered industries under the Unemployment
17 Insurance Act on July 1, 1975 is hereby fixed at \$228.16
18 per week and the computation of compensation rates shall be
19 based on the aforesaid average weekly wage until modified
20 as hereinafter provided.

21 6. The Department of Employment Security of the State
22 shall on or before the first day of December, 1977, and on
23 or before the first day of June, 1978, and on the first day
24 of each December and June of each year thereafter, publish
25 the State's average weekly wage in covered industries under
26 the Unemployment Insurance Act and the Illinois Workers'

1 Compensation Commission shall on the 15th day of January,
2 1978 and on the 15th day of July, 1978 and on the 15th day
3 of each January and July of each year thereafter, post and
4 publish the State's average weekly wage in covered
5 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act as last
6 determined and published by the Department of Employment
7 Security. The amount when so posted and published shall be
8 conclusive and shall be applicable as the basis of
9 computation of compensation rates until the next posting
10 and publication as aforesaid.

11 7. The payment of compensation by an employer or his
12 insurance carrier to an injured employee shall not
13 constitute an admission of the employer's liability to pay
14 compensation.

15 (c) For any serious and permanent disfigurement to the
16 hand, head, face, neck, arm, leg below the knee or the chest
17 above the axillary line, the employee is entitled to
18 compensation for such disfigurement, the amount determined by
19 agreement at any time or by arbitration under this Act, at a
20 hearing not less than 6 months after the date of the accidental
21 injury, which amount shall not exceed 150 weeks (if the
22 accidental injury occurs on or after the effective date of this
23 amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly but before February
24 1, 2006) or 162 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
25 after February 1, 2006) at the applicable rate provided in
26 subparagraph 2.1 of paragraph (b) of this Section.

1 No compensation is payable under this paragraph where
2 compensation is payable under paragraphs (d), (e) or (f) of
3 this Section.

4 A duly appointed member of a fire department in a city, the
5 population of which exceeds 500,000 according to the last
6 federal or State census, is eligible for compensation under
7 this paragraph only where such serious and permanent
8 disfigurement results from burns.

9 (d) 1. If, after the accidental injury has been sustained,
10 the employee as a result thereof becomes partially
11 incapacitated from pursuing his usual and customary line of
12 employment, he shall, except in cases compensated under the
13 specific schedule set forth in paragraph (e) of this Section,
14 receive compensation for the duration of his disability,
15 subject to the limitations as to maximum amounts fixed in
16 paragraph (b) of this Section, equal to 66-2/3% of the
17 difference between the average amount which he would be able to
18 earn in the full performance of his duties in the occupation in
19 which he was engaged at the time of the accident and the
20 average amount which he is earning or is able to earn in some
21 suitable employment or business after the accident. For
22 accidental injuries that occur on or after September 1, 2011,
23 an award for wage differential under this subsection shall be
24 effective only until the employee reaches the age of 67 or 5
25 years from the date the award becomes final, whichever is
26 later.

1 2. If, as a result of the accident, the employee sustains
2 serious and permanent injuries not covered by paragraphs (c)
3 and (e) of this Section or having sustained injuries covered by
4 the aforesaid paragraphs (c) and (e), he shall have sustained
5 in addition thereto other injuries which injuries do not
6 incapacitate him from pursuing the duties of his employment but
7 which would disable him from pursuing other suitable
8 occupations, or which have otherwise resulted in physical
9 impairment; or if such injuries partially incapacitate him from
10 pursuing the duties of his usual and customary line of
11 employment but do not result in an impairment of earning
12 capacity, or having resulted in an impairment of earning
13 capacity, the employee elects to waive his right to recover
14 under the foregoing subparagraph 1 of paragraph (d) of this
15 Section then in any of the foregoing events, he shall receive
16 in addition to compensation for temporary total disability
17 under paragraph (b) of this Section, compensation at the rate
18 provided in subparagraph 2.1 of paragraph (b) of this Section
19 for that percentage of 500 weeks that the partial disability
20 resulting from the injuries covered by this paragraph bears to
21 total disability. If the employee shall have sustained a
22 fracture of one or more vertebra or fracture of the skull, the
23 amount of compensation allowed under this Section shall be not
24 less than 6 weeks for a fractured skull and 6 weeks for each
25 fractured vertebra, and in the event the employee shall have
26 sustained a fracture of any of the following facial bones:

1 nasal, lachrymal, vomer, zygoma, maxilla, palatine or
2 mandible, the amount of compensation allowed under this Section
3 shall be not less than 2 weeks for each such fractured bone,
4 and for a fracture of each transverse process not less than 3
5 weeks. In the event such injuries shall result in the loss of a
6 kidney, spleen or lung, the amount of compensation allowed
7 under this Section shall be not less than 10 weeks for each
8 such organ. Compensation awarded under this subparagraph 2
9 shall not take into consideration injuries covered under
10 paragraphs (c) and (e) of this Section and the compensation
11 provided in this paragraph shall not affect the employee's
12 right to compensation payable under paragraphs (b), (c) and (e)
13 of this Section for the disabilities therein covered.

14 (e) For accidental injuries in the following schedule, the
15 employee shall receive compensation for the period of temporary
16 total incapacity for work resulting from such accidental
17 injury, under subparagraph 1 of paragraph (b) of this Section,
18 and shall receive in addition thereto compensation for a
19 further period for the specific loss herein mentioned, but
20 shall not receive any compensation under any other provisions
21 of this Act. The following listed amounts apply to either the
22 loss of or the permanent and complete loss of use of the member
23 specified, such compensation for the length of time as follows:

24 1. Thumb-

25 70 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
26 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the

1 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

2 76 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
3 after February 1, 2006.

4 2. First, or index finger-

5 40 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
6 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
7 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

8 43 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
9 after February 1, 2006.

10 3. Second, or middle finger-

11 35 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
12 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
13 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

14 38 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
15 after February 1, 2006.

16 4. Third, or ring finger-

17 25 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
18 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
19 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

20 27 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
21 after February 1, 2006.

22 5. Fourth, or little finger-

23 20 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
24 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
25 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

26 22 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or

1 after February 1, 2006.

2 6. Great toe-

3 35 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
4 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
5 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

6 38 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
7 after February 1, 2006.

8 7. Each toe other than great toe-

9 12 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
10 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
11 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

12 13 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
13 after February 1, 2006.

14 8. The loss of the first or distal phalanx of the thumb
15 or of any finger or toe shall be considered to be equal to
16 the loss of one-half of such thumb, finger or toe and the
17 compensation payable shall be one-half of the amount above
18 specified. The loss of more than one phalanx shall be
19 considered as the loss of the entire thumb, finger or toe.
20 In no case shall the amount received for more than one
21 finger exceed the amount provided in this schedule for the
22 loss of a hand.

23 9. Hand-

24 190 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
25 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
26 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

1 205 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
2 after February 1, 2006.

3 190 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
4 after June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act
5 97-18) and if the accidental injury involves carpal
6 tunnel syndrome due to repetitive or cumulative
7 trauma, in which case the permanent partial disability
8 shall not exceed 15% loss of use of the hand, except
9 for cause shown by clear and convincing evidence and in
10 which case the award shall not exceed 30% loss of use
11 of the hand.

12 The loss of 2 or more digits, or one or more phalanges
13 of 2 or more digits, of a hand may be compensated on the
14 basis of partial loss of use of a hand, provided, further,
15 that the loss of 4 digits, or the loss of use of 4 digits,
16 in the same hand shall constitute the complete loss of a
17 hand.

18 10. Arm-

19 235 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
20 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
21 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

22 253 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
23 after February 1, 2006.

24 Where an accidental injury results in the amputation of
25 an arm below the elbow, such injury shall be compensated as
26 a loss of an arm. Where an accidental injury results in the

1 amputation of an arm above the elbow, compensation for an
2 additional 15 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
3 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
4 General Assembly but before February 1, 2006) or an
5 additional 17 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
6 after February 1, 2006) shall be paid, except where the
7 accidental injury results in the amputation of an arm at
8 the shoulder joint, or so close to shoulder joint that an
9 artificial arm cannot be used, or results in the
10 disarticulation of an arm at the shoulder joint, in which
11 case compensation for an additional 65 weeks (if the
12 accidental injury occurs on or after the effective date of
13 this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly but before
14 February 1, 2006) or an additional 70 weeks (if the
15 accidental injury occurs on or after February 1, 2006)
16 shall be paid.

17 For purposes of awards under this subdivision (e),
18 injuries to the shoulder shall be considered injuries to
19 part of the arm.

20 11. Foot-

21 155 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
22 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
23 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

24 167 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
25 after February 1, 2006.

26 12. Leg-

1 200 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
2 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
3 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

4 215 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
5 after February 1, 2006.

6 Where an accidental injury results in the amputation of
7 a leg below the knee, such injury shall be compensated as
8 loss of a leg. Where an accidental injury results in the
9 amputation of a leg above the knee, compensation for an
10 additional 25 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
11 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
12 General Assembly but before February 1, 2006) or an
13 additional 27 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
14 after February 1, 2006) shall be paid, except where the
15 accidental injury results in the amputation of a leg at the
16 hip joint, or so close to the hip joint that an artificial
17 leg cannot be used, or results in the disarticulation of a
18 leg at the hip joint, in which case compensation for an
19 additional 75 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
20 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
21 General Assembly but before February 1, 2006) or an
22 additional 81 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
23 after February 1, 2006) shall be paid.

24 For purposes of awards under this subdivision (e),
25 injuries to the hip shall be considered injuries to part of
26 the leg.

1 13. Eye-

2 150 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
3 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
4 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

5 162 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
6 after February 1, 2006.

7 Where an accidental injury results in the enucleation
8 of an eye, compensation for an additional 10 weeks (if the
9 accidental injury occurs on or after the effective date of
10 this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly but before
11 February 1, 2006) or an additional 11 weeks (if the
12 accidental injury occurs on or after February 1, 2006)
13 shall be paid.

14 14. Loss of hearing of one ear-

15 50 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
16 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
17 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

18 54 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
19 after February 1, 2006.

20 Total and permanent loss of hearing of both ears-

21 200 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
22 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
23 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

24 215 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
25 after February 1, 2006.

26 15. Testicle-

1 50 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
2 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
3 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

4 54 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
5 after February 1, 2006.

6 Both testicles-

7 150 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
8 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
9 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

10 162 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
11 after February 1, 2006.

12 16. For the permanent partial loss of use of a member
13 or sight of an eye, or hearing of an ear, compensation
14 during that proportion of the number of weeks in the
15 foregoing schedule provided for the loss of such member or
16 sight of an eye, or hearing of an ear, which the partial
17 loss of use thereof bears to the total loss of use of such
18 member, or sight of eye, or hearing of an ear.

19 (a) Loss of hearing for compensation purposes
20 shall be confined to the frequencies of 1,000, 2,000
21 and 3,000 cycles per second. Loss of hearing ability
22 for frequency tones above 3,000 cycles per second are
23 not to be considered as constituting disability for
24 hearing.

25 (b) The percent of hearing loss, for purposes of
26 the determination of compensation claims for

1 occupational deafness, shall be calculated as the
2 average in decibels for the thresholds of hearing for
3 the frequencies of 1,000, 2,000 and 3,000 cycles per
4 second. Pure tone air conduction audiometric
5 instruments, approved by nationally recognized
6 authorities in this field, shall be used for measuring
7 hearing loss. If the losses of hearing average 30
8 decibels or less in the 3 frequencies, such losses of
9 hearing shall not then constitute any compensable
10 hearing disability. If the losses of hearing average 85
11 decibels or more in the 3 frequencies, then the same
12 shall constitute and be total or 100% compensable
13 hearing loss.

14 (c) In measuring hearing impairment, the lowest
15 measured losses in each of the 3 frequencies shall be
16 added together and divided by 3 to determine the
17 average decibel loss. For every decibel of loss
18 exceeding 30 decibels an allowance of 1.82% shall be
19 made up to the maximum of 100% which is reached at 85
20 decibels.

21 (d) If a hearing loss is established to have
22 existed on July 1, 1975 by audiometric testing the
23 employer shall not be liable for the previous loss so
24 established nor shall he be liable for any loss for
25 which compensation has been paid or awarded.

26 (e) No consideration shall be given to the question

1 of whether or not the ability of an employee to
2 understand speech is improved by the use of a hearing
3 aid.

4 (f) No claim for loss of hearing due to industrial
5 noise shall be brought against an employer or allowed
6 unless the employee has been exposed for a period of
7 time sufficient to cause permanent impairment to noise
8 levels in excess of the following:

9 Sound Level DBA

10	Slow Response	Hours Per Day
11	90	8
12	92	6
13	95	4
14	97	3
15	100	2
16	102	1-1/2
17	105	1
18	110	1/2
19	115	1/4

20 This subparagraph (f) shall not be applied in cases of
21 hearing loss resulting from trauma or explosion.

22 17. In computing the compensation to be paid to any
23 employee who, before the accident for which he claims
24 compensation, had before that time sustained an injury
25 resulting in the loss by amputation or partial loss by
26 amputation of any member, including hand, arm, thumb or

1 fingers, leg, foot, or any toes, or loss under Section
2 8(d)2 due to accidental injuries to the same part of the
3 spine, such loss or partial loss of any such member or loss
4 under Section 8(d)2 due to accidental injuries to the same
5 part of the spine shall be deducted from any award made for
6 the subsequent injury. For the permanent loss of use or the
7 permanent partial loss of use of any such member or the
8 partial loss of sight of an eye or loss under Section 8(d)2
9 due to accidental injuries to the same part of the spine,
10 for which compensation has been paid, then such loss shall
11 be taken into consideration and deducted from any award for
12 the subsequent injury. For purposes of this subdivision
13 (e)17 only, "same part of the spine" means: (1) cervical
14 spine and thoracic spine from vertebra C1 through T12 and
15 (2) lumbar and sacral spine and coccyx from vertebra L1
16 through S5.

17 18. The specific case of loss of both hands, both arms,
18 or both feet, or both legs, or both eyes, or of any two
19 thereof, or the permanent and complete loss of the use
20 thereof, constitutes total and permanent disability, to be
21 compensated according to the compensation fixed by
22 paragraph (f) of this Section. These specific cases of
23 total and permanent disability do not exclude other cases.

24 Any employee who has previously suffered the loss or
25 permanent and complete loss of the use of any of such
26 members, and in a subsequent independent accident loses

1 another or suffers the permanent and complete loss of the
2 use of any one of such members the employer for whom the
3 injured employee is working at the time of the last
4 independent accident is liable to pay compensation only for
5 the loss or permanent and complete loss of the use of the
6 member occasioned by the last independent accident.

7 19. In a case of specific loss and the subsequent death
8 of such injured employee from other causes than such injury
9 leaving a widow, widower, or dependents surviving before
10 payment or payment in full for such injury, then the amount
11 due for such injury is payable to the widow or widower and,
12 if there be no widow or widower, then to such dependents,
13 in the proportion which such dependency bears to total
14 dependency.

15 Beginning July 1, 1980, and every 6 months thereafter, the
16 Commission shall examine the Second Injury Fund and when, after
17 deducting all advances or loans made to such Fund, the amount
18 therein is \$500,000 then the amount required to be paid by
19 employers pursuant to paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be
20 reduced by one-half. When the Second Injury Fund reaches the
21 sum of \$600,000 then the payments shall cease entirely.
22 However, when the Second Injury Fund has been reduced to
23 \$400,000, payment of one-half of the amounts required by
24 paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be resumed, in the manner
25 herein provided, and when the Second Injury Fund has been
26 reduced to \$300,000, payment of the full amounts required by

1 paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be resumed, in the manner
2 herein provided. The Commission shall make the changes in
3 payment effective by general order, and the changes in payment
4 become immediately effective for all cases coming before the
5 Commission thereafter either by settlement agreement or final
6 order, irrespective of the date of the accidental injury.

7 On August 1, 1996 and on February 1 and August 1 of each
8 subsequent year, the Commission shall examine the special fund
9 designated as the "Rate Adjustment Fund" and when, after
10 deducting all advances or loans made to said fund, the amount
11 therein is \$4,000,000, the amount required to be paid by
12 employers pursuant to paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be
13 reduced by one-half. When the Rate Adjustment Fund reaches the
14 sum of \$5,000,000 the payment therein shall cease entirely.
15 However, when said Rate Adjustment Fund has been reduced to
16 \$3,000,000 the amounts required by paragraph (f) of Section 7
17 shall be resumed in the manner herein provided.

18 (f) In case of complete disability, which renders the
19 employee wholly and permanently incapable of work, or in the
20 specific case of total and permanent disability as provided in
21 subparagraph 18 of paragraph (e) of this Section, compensation
22 shall be payable at the rate provided in subparagraph 2 of
23 paragraph (b) of this Section for life.

24 An employee entitled to benefits under paragraph (f) of
25 this Section shall also be entitled to receive from the Rate
26 Adjustment Fund provided in paragraph (f) of Section 7 of the

1 supplementary benefits provided in paragraph (g) of this
2 Section 8.

3 If any employee who receives an award under this paragraph
4 afterwards returns to work or is able to do so, and earns or is
5 able to earn as much as before the accident, payments under
6 such award shall cease. If such employee returns to work, or is
7 able to do so, and earns or is able to earn part but not as much
8 as before the accident, such award shall be modified so as to
9 conform to an award under paragraph (d) of this Section. If
10 such award is terminated or reduced under the provisions of
11 this paragraph, such employees have the right at any time
12 within 30 months after the date of such termination or
13 reduction to file petition with the Commission for the purpose
14 of determining whether any disability exists as a result of the
15 original accidental injury and the extent thereof.

16 Disability as enumerated in subdivision 18, paragraph (e)
17 of this Section is considered complete disability.

18 If an employee who had previously incurred loss or the
19 permanent and complete loss of use of one member, through the
20 loss or the permanent and complete loss of the use of one hand,
21 one arm, one foot, one leg, or one eye, incurs permanent and
22 complete disability through the loss or the permanent and
23 complete loss of the use of another member, he shall receive,
24 in addition to the compensation payable by the employer and
25 after such payments have ceased, an amount from the Second
26 Injury Fund provided for in paragraph (f) of Section 7, which,

1 together with the compensation payable from the employer in
2 whose employ he was when the last accidental injury was
3 incurred, will equal the amount payable for permanent and
4 complete disability as provided in this paragraph of this
5 Section.

6 The custodian of the Second Injury Fund provided for in
7 paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be joined with the employer as
8 a party respondent in the application for adjustment of claim.
9 The application for adjustment of claim shall state briefly and
10 in general terms the approximate time and place and manner of
11 the loss of the first member.

12 In its award the Commission or the Arbitrator shall
13 specifically find the amount the injured employee shall be
14 weekly paid, the number of weeks compensation which shall be
15 paid by the employer, the date upon which payments begin out of
16 the Second Injury Fund provided for in paragraph (f) of Section
17 7 of this Act, the length of time the weekly payments continue,
18 the date upon which the pension payments commence and the
19 monthly amount of the payments. The Commission shall 30 days
20 after the date upon which payments out of the Second Injury
21 Fund have begun as provided in the award, and every month
22 thereafter, prepare and submit to the State Comptroller a
23 voucher for payment for all compensation accrued to that date
24 at the rate fixed by the Commission. The State Comptroller
25 shall draw a warrant to the injured employee along with a
26 receipt to be executed by the injured employee and returned to

1 the Commission. The endorsed warrant and receipt is a full and
2 complete acquittance to the Commission for the payment out of
3 the Second Injury Fund. No other appropriation or warrant is
4 necessary for payment out of the Second Injury Fund. The Second
5 Injury Fund is appropriated for the purpose of making payments
6 according to the terms of the awards.

7 As of July 1, 1980 to July 1, 1982, all claims against and
8 obligations of the Second Injury Fund shall become claims
9 against and obligations of the Rate Adjustment Fund to the
10 extent there is insufficient money in the Second Injury Fund to
11 pay such claims and obligations. In that case, all references
12 to "Second Injury Fund" in this Section shall also include the
13 Rate Adjustment Fund.

14 (g) Every award for permanent total disability entered by
15 the Commission on and after July 1, 1965 under which
16 compensation payments shall become due and payable after the
17 effective date of this amendatory Act, and every award for
18 death benefits or permanent total disability entered by the
19 Commission on and after the effective date of this amendatory
20 Act shall be subject to annual adjustments as to the amount of
21 the compensation rate therein provided. Such adjustments shall
22 first be made on July 15, 1977, and all awards made and entered
23 prior to July 1, 1975 and on July 15 of each year thereafter.
24 In all other cases such adjustment shall be made on July 15 of
25 the second year next following the date of the entry of the
26 award and shall further be made on July 15 annually thereafter.

1 If during the intervening period from the date of the entry of
2 the award, or the last periodic adjustment, there shall have
3 been an increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
4 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act, the weekly
5 compensation rate shall be proportionately increased by the
6 same percentage as the percentage of increase in the State's
7 average weekly wage in covered industries under the
8 Unemployment Insurance Act. The increase in the compensation
9 rate under this paragraph shall in no event bring the total
10 compensation rate to an amount greater than the prevailing
11 maximum rate at the time that the annual adjustment is made.
12 Such increase shall be paid in the same manner as herein
13 provided for payments under the Second Injury Fund to the
14 injured employee, or his dependents, as the case may be, out of
15 the Rate Adjustment Fund provided in paragraph (f) of Section 7
16 of this Act. Payments shall be made at the same intervals as
17 provided in the award or, at the option of the Commission, may
18 be made in quarterly payment on the 15th day of January, April,
19 July and October of each year. In the event of a decrease in
20 such average weekly wage there shall be no change in the then
21 existing compensation rate. The within paragraph shall not
22 apply to cases where there is disputed liability and in which a
23 compromise lump sum settlement between the employer and the
24 injured employee, or his dependents, as the case may be, has
25 been duly approved by the Illinois Workers' Compensation
26 Commission.

1 Provided, that in cases of awards entered by the Commission
2 for injuries occurring before July 1, 1975, the increases in
3 the compensation rate adjusted under the foregoing provision of
4 this paragraph (g) shall be limited to increases in the State's
5 average weekly wage in covered industries under the
6 Unemployment Insurance Act occurring after July 1, 1975.

7 For every accident occurring on or after July 20, 2005 but
8 before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
9 General Assembly (Senate Bill 1283 of the 94th General
10 Assembly), the annual adjustments to the compensation rate in
11 awards for death benefits or permanent total disability, as
12 provided in this Act, shall be paid by the employer. The
13 adjustment shall be made by the employer on July 15 of the
14 second year next following the date of the entry of the award
15 and shall further be made on July 15 annually thereafter. If
16 during the intervening period from the date of the entry of the
17 award, or the last periodic adjustment, there shall have been
18 an increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
19 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act, the employer
20 shall increase the weekly compensation rate proportionately by
21 the same percentage as the percentage of increase in the
22 State's average weekly wage in covered industries under the
23 Unemployment Insurance Act. The increase in the compensation
24 rate under this paragraph shall in no event bring the total
25 compensation rate to an amount greater than the prevailing
26 maximum rate at the time that the annual adjustment is made. In

1 the event of a decrease in such average weekly wage there shall
2 be no change in the then existing compensation rate. Such
3 increase shall be paid by the employer in the same manner and
4 at the same intervals as the payment of compensation in the
5 award. This paragraph shall not apply to cases where there is
6 disputed liability and in which a compromise lump sum
7 settlement between the employer and the injured employee, or
8 his or her dependents, as the case may be, has been duly
9 approved by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission.

10 The annual adjustments for every award of death benefits or
11 permanent total disability involving accidents occurring
12 before July 20, 2005 and accidents occurring on or after the
13 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General
14 Assembly (Senate Bill 1283 of the 94th General Assembly) shall
15 continue to be paid from the Rate Adjustment Fund pursuant to
16 this paragraph and Section 7(f) of this Act.

17 (h) In case death occurs from any cause before the total
18 compensation to which the employee would have been entitled has
19 been paid, then in case the employee leaves any widow, widower,
20 child, parent (or any grandchild, grandparent or other lineal
21 heir or any collateral heir dependent at the time of the
22 accident upon the earnings of the employee to the extent of 50%
23 or more of total dependency) such compensation shall be paid to
24 the beneficiaries of the deceased employee and distributed as
25 provided in paragraph (g) of Section 7.

26 (h-1) In case an injured employee is under legal disability

1 at the time when any right or privilege accrues to him or her
2 under this Act, a guardian may be appointed pursuant to law,
3 and may, on behalf of such person under legal disability, claim
4 and exercise any such right or privilege with the same effect
5 as if the employee himself or herself had claimed or exercised
6 the right or privilege. No limitations of time provided by this
7 Act run so long as the employee who is under legal disability
8 is without a conservator or guardian.

9 (i) In case the injured employee is under 16 years of age
10 at the time of the accident and is illegally employed, the
11 amount of compensation payable under paragraphs (b), (c), (d),
12 (e) and (f) of this Section is increased 50%.

13 However, where an employer has on file an employment
14 certificate issued pursuant to the Child Labor Law or work
15 permit issued pursuant to the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act,
16 as amended, or a birth certificate properly and duly issued,
17 such certificate, permit or birth certificate is conclusive
18 evidence as to the age of the injured minor employee for the
19 purposes of this Section.

20 Nothing herein contained repeals or amends the provisions
21 of the Child Labor Law relating to the employment of minors
22 under the age of 16 years.

23 (j) 1. In the event the injured employee receives benefits,
24 including medical, surgical or hospital benefits under any
25 group plan covering non-occupational disabilities contributed
26 to wholly or partially by the employer, which benefits should

1 not have been payable if any rights of recovery existed under
2 this Act, then such amounts so paid to the employee from any
3 such group plan as shall be consistent with, and limited to,
4 the provisions of paragraph 2 hereof, shall be credited to or
5 against any compensation payment for temporary total
6 incapacity for work or any medical, surgical or hospital
7 benefits made or to be made under this Act. In such event, the
8 period of time for giving notice of accidental injury and
9 filing application for adjustment of claim does not commence to
10 run until the termination of such payments. This paragraph does
11 not apply to payments made under any group plan which would
12 have been payable irrespective of an accidental injury under
13 this Act. Any employer receiving such credit shall keep such
14 employee safe and harmless from any and all claims or
15 liabilities that may be made against him by reason of having
16 received such payments only to the extent of such credit.

17 Any excess benefits paid to or on behalf of a State
18 employee by the State Employees' Retirement System under
19 Article 14 of the Illinois Pension Code on a death claim or
20 disputed disability claim shall be credited against any
21 payments made or to be made by the State of Illinois to or on
22 behalf of such employee under this Act, except for payments for
23 medical expenses which have already been incurred at the time
24 of the award. The State of Illinois shall directly reimburse
25 the State Employees' Retirement System to the extent of such
26 credit.

1 2. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to give
2 the employer or the insurance carrier the right to credit for
3 any benefits or payments received by the employee other than
4 compensation payments provided by this Act, and where the
5 employee receives payments other than compensation payments,
6 whether as full or partial salary, group insurance benefits,
7 bonuses, annuities or any other payments, the employer or
8 insurance carrier shall receive credit for each such payment
9 only to the extent of the compensation that would have been
10 payable during the period covered by such payment.

11 3. The extension of time for the filing of an Application
12 for Adjustment of Claim as provided in paragraph 1 above shall
13 not apply to those cases where the time for such filing had
14 expired prior to the date on which payments or benefits
15 enumerated herein have been initiated or resumed. Provided
16 however that this paragraph 3 shall apply only to cases wherein
17 the payments or benefits hereinabove enumerated shall be
18 received after July 1, 1969.

19 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11; 97-268, eff. 8-8-11; 97-813,
20 eff. 7-13-12.)

21 (820 ILCS 305/8.1 new)

22 Sec. 8.1. Repetitive and cumulative injuries; right of
23 contribution.

24 (a) Any accidental injury which results from repetitive or
25 cumulative trauma and occurs within 3 months after the employee

1 begins his or her employment shall not be considered by a
2 workers' compensation insurer in setting the premium rate for
3 the employer.

4 (b) If an award is made for benefits in connection with
5 repetitive or cumulative injury resulting from employment with
6 more than one employer, the employer liable for award or its
7 insurer is entitled to contributions or reimbursement from each
8 of the employee's prior employers which are subject to this Act
9 or their insurers for the prior employer's pro rata share of
10 responsibility as determined by the Commission. The right to
11 contribution or reimbursement under this Section shall not
12 delay, diminish, restrict, or alter in any way the benefits to
13 which the employee or his or her dependents are entitled under
14 this Act. At any time within one year after the Commission or
15 the Arbitrator has made an award for benefits in connection
16 with repetitive or cumulative injury, the employer liable under
17 the award or its insurer may institute proceedings before the
18 Commission for the purpose of determining the right of
19 contribution or reimbursement. The proceeding shall not delay,
20 diminish, restrict, or alter in any way the benefits to which
21 the employee or his or her dependents are entitled under this
22 Act, but shall be limited to a determination of the respective
23 contribution or reimbursement rights and the responsibilities
24 of all the employers joined in the proceeding. The employee has
25 the duty of rendering reasonable cooperation in any of such
26 proceeding.

1 (c) No contribution or reimbursement may be sought for any
2 payment of benefits more than 2 years after the employer
3 seeking contribution or reimbursement has made the payment.

4 (d) This Section shall apply only to injuries occurring on
5 or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 100th
6 General Assembly.

7 (e) The Commission shall adopt emergency rules under
8 Section 5-45 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act to
9 implement the provisions of this Section.

10 (820 ILCS 305/8.1b)

11 Sec. 8.1b. Determination of permanent partial disability.
12 For accidental injuries that occur on or after September 1,
13 2011, permanent partial disability shall be established using
14 the following criteria:

15 (a) A physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its
16 branches preparing a permanent partial disability impairment
17 report shall report the level of impairment in writing. The
18 report shall include an evaluation of medically defined and
19 professionally appropriate measurements of impairment that
20 include, but are not limited to: loss of range of motion; loss
21 of strength; measured atrophy of tissue mass consistent with
22 the injury; and any other measurements that establish the
23 nature and extent of the impairment. The most current edition
24 of the American Medical Association's "Guides to the Evaluation
25 of Permanent Impairment" shall be used by the physician in

1 determining the level of impairment.

2 (b) In determining the level of permanent partial
3 disability, the Commission shall base its determination on the
4 following factors: (i) the reported level of impairment
5 pursuant to subsection (a) if such a report exists and is
6 admitted into evidence; (ii) the occupation of the injured
7 employee; (iii) the age of the employee at the time of the
8 injury; (iv) the employee's future earning capacity; and (v)
9 evidence of disability corroborated by the treating medical
10 records or examination under Section 12 of this Act. Where an
11 impairment report exists and is admitted into evidence, it must
12 be considered by the Commission in its determination. No single
13 enumerated factor shall be the sole determinant of disability.
14 In determining the level of disability, the relevance and
15 weight of any factors used in addition to the level of
16 impairment as reported by the physician must be explained in a
17 written order.

18 (c) A report of impairment prepared pursuant to subsection
19 (a) is not required for an arbitrator or the Commission to make
20 an award for permanent partial disability or permanent total
21 disability benefits or any award for benefits under subsection
22 (c) of Section 8 or subsection (d) of Section 8 of this Act or
23 to approve a Settlement Contract Lump Sum Petition.

24 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11.)

25 (820 ILCS 305/8.2)

1 Sec. 8.2. Fee schedule.

2 (a) Except as provided for in subsection (c), for
3 procedures, treatments, or services covered under this Act and
4 rendered or to be rendered on and after February 1, 2006, the
5 maximum allowable payment shall be 90% of the 80th percentile
6 of charges and fees as determined by the Commission utilizing
7 information provided by employers' and insurers' national
8 databases, with a minimum of 12,000,000 Illinois line item
9 charges and fees comprised of health care provider and hospital
10 charges and fees as of August 1, 2004 but not earlier than
11 August 1, 2002. These charges and fees are provider billed
12 amounts and shall not include discounted charges. The 80th
13 percentile is the point on an ordered data set from low to high
14 such that 80% of the cases are below or equal to that point and
15 at most 20% are above or equal to that point. The Commission
16 shall adjust these historical charges and fees as of August 1,
17 2004 by the Consumer Price Index-U for the period August 1,
18 2004 through September 30, 2005. The Commission shall establish
19 fee schedules for procedures, treatments, or services for
20 hospital inpatient, hospital outpatient, emergency room and
21 trauma, ambulatory surgical treatment centers, and
22 professional services. These charges and fees shall be
23 designated by geozip or any smaller geographic unit. The data
24 shall in no way identify or tend to identify any patient,
25 employer, or health care provider. As used in this Section,
26 "geozip" means a three-digit zip code based on data

1 similarities, geographical similarities, and frequencies. A
2 geozip does not cross state boundaries. As used in this
3 Section, "three-digit zip code" means a geographic area in
4 which all zip codes have the same first 3 digits. If a geozip
5 does not have the necessary number of charges and fees to
6 calculate a valid percentile for a specific procedure,
7 treatment, or service, the Commission may combine data from the
8 geozip with up to 4 other geozips that are demographically and
9 economically similar and exhibit similarities in data and
10 frequencies until the Commission reaches 9 charges or fees for
11 that specific procedure, treatment, or service. In cases where
12 the compiled data contains less than 9 charges or fees for a
13 procedure, treatment, or service, reimbursement shall occur at
14 76% of charges and fees as determined by the Commission in a
15 manner consistent with the provisions of this paragraph.
16 Providers of out-of-state procedures, treatments, services,
17 products, or supplies shall be reimbursed at the lesser of that
18 state's fee schedule amount or the fee schedule amount for the
19 region in which the employee resides. If no fee schedule exists
20 in that state, the provider shall be reimbursed at the lesser
21 of the actual charge or the fee schedule amount for the region
22 in which the employee resides. Not later than September 30 in
23 2006 and each year thereafter, the Commission shall
24 automatically increase or decrease the maximum allowable
25 payment for a procedure, treatment, or service established and
26 in effect on January 1 of that year by the percentage change in

1 the Consumer Price Index-U for the 12 month period ending
2 August 31 of that year. The increase or decrease shall become
3 effective on January 1 of the following year. As used in this
4 Section, "Consumer Price Index-U" means the index published by
5 the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor,
6 that measures the average change in prices of all goods and
7 services purchased by all urban consumers, U.S. city average,
8 all items, 1982-84=100.

9 (a-1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) and
10 unless otherwise indicated, the following provisions shall
11 apply to the medical fee schedule starting on September 1,
12 2011:

13 (1) The Commission shall establish and maintain fee
14 schedules for procedures, treatments, products, services,
15 or supplies for hospital inpatient, hospital outpatient,
16 emergency room, ambulatory surgical treatment centers,
17 accredited ambulatory surgical treatment facilities,
18 prescriptions filled and dispensed outside of a licensed
19 pharmacy, dental services, and professional services. This
20 fee schedule shall be based on the fee schedule amounts
21 already established by the Commission pursuant to
22 subsection (a) of this Section. However, starting on
23 January 1, 2012, these fee schedule amounts shall be
24 grouped into geographic regions in the following manner:

25 (A) Four regions for non-hospital fee schedule
26 amounts shall be utilized:

- 1 (i) Cook County;
- 2 (ii) DuPage, Kane, Lake, and Will Counties;
- 3 (iii) Bond, Calhoun, Clinton, Jersey,
- 4 Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph,
- 5 St. Clair, and Washington Counties; and
- 6 (iv) All other counties of the State.
- 7 (B) Fourteen regions for hospital fee schedule
- 8 amounts shall be utilized:
- 9 (i) Cook, DuPage, Will, Kane, McHenry, DeKalb,
- 10 Kendall, and Grundy Counties;
- 11 (ii) Kankakee County;
- 12 (iii) Madison, St. Clair, Macoupin, Clinton,
- 13 Monroe, Jersey, Bond, and Calhoun Counties;
- 14 (iv) Winnebago and Boone Counties;
- 15 (v) Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Marshall, and
- 16 Stark Counties;
- 17 (vi) Champaign, Piatt, and Ford Counties;
- 18 (vii) Rock Island, Henry, and Mercer Counties;
- 19 (viii) Sangamon and Menard Counties;
- 20 (ix) McLean County;
- 21 (x) Lake County;
- 22 (xi) Macon County;
- 23 (xii) Vermilion County;
- 24 (xiii) Alexander County; and
- 25 (xiv) All other counties of the State.

26 (2) If a geozip, as defined in subsection (a) of this

1 Section, overlaps into one or more of the regions set forth
2 in this Section, then the Commission shall average or
3 repeat the charges and fees in a geozip in order to
4 designate charges and fees for each region.

5 (3) In cases where the compiled data contains less than
6 9 charges or fees for a procedure, treatment, product,
7 supply, or service or where the fee schedule amount cannot
8 be determined by the non-discounted charge data,
9 non-Medicare relative values and conversion factors
10 derived from established fee schedule amounts, coding
11 crosswalks, or other data as determined by the Commission,
12 reimbursement shall occur at 76% of charges and fees until
13 September 1, 2011 and 53.2% of charges and fees thereafter
14 as determined by the Commission in a manner consistent with
15 the provisions of this paragraph.

16 (4) To establish additional fee schedule amounts, the
17 Commission shall utilize provider non-discounted charge
18 data, non-Medicare relative values and conversion factors
19 derived from established fee schedule amounts, and coding
20 crosswalks. The Commission may establish additional fee
21 schedule amounts based on either the charge or cost of the
22 procedure, treatment, product, supply, or service.

23 (5) Implants shall be reimbursed at 25% above the net
24 manufacturer's invoice price less rebates, plus actual
25 reasonable and customary shipping charges whether or not
26 the implant charge is submitted by a provider in

1 conjunction with a bill for all other services associated
2 with the implant, submitted by a provider on a separate
3 claim form, submitted by a distributor, or submitted by the
4 manufacturer of the implant. "Implants" include the
5 following codes or any substantially similar updated code
6 as determined by the Commission: 0274
7 (prosthetics/orthotics); 0275 (pacemaker); 0276 (lens
8 implant); 0278 (implants); 0540 and 0545 (ambulance); 0624
9 (investigational devices); and 0636 (drugs requiring
10 detailed coding). Non-implantable devices or supplies
11 within these codes shall be reimbursed at 65% of actual
12 charge, which is the provider's normal rates under its
13 standard chargemaster. A standard chargemaster is the
14 provider's list of charges for procedures, treatments,
15 products, supplies, or services used to bill payers in a
16 consistent manner.

17 (6) The Commission shall automatically update all
18 codes and associated rules with the version of the codes
19 and rules valid on January 1 of that year.

20 (a-2) For procedures, treatments, services, or supplies
21 covered under this Act and rendered or to be rendered on or
22 after September 1, 2011, the maximum allowable payment shall be
23 70% of the fee schedule amounts, which shall be adjusted yearly
24 by the Consumer Price Index-U, as described in subsection (a)
25 of this Section.

26 (a-3) Prescriptions filled and dispensed outside of a

1 licensed pharmacy shall be subject to a fee schedule that shall
2 not exceed the Average Wholesale Price (AWP) plus a dispensing
3 fee of \$4.18. AWP or its equivalent as registered by the
4 National Drug Code shall be set forth for that drug on that
5 date as published in Medispan.

6 (a-4) The Commission, in consultation with the Workers'
7 Compensation Medical Fee Advisory Board, shall promulgate by
8 rule an evidence-based drug formulary and any rules necessary
9 for its administration. Prescriptions prescribed for workers'
10 compensation cases shall be limited to those prescription and
11 non-prescription drugs and doses on the closed formulary.

12 A request for a prescription that is not on the closed
13 formulary shall be reviewed pursuant to Section 8.7 of this
14 Act.

15 (a-5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section,
16 on or before March 1, 2019 and on or before March 1 of each
17 subsequent year, the Commission must investigate all
18 procedures, treatments, and services covered under this Act for
19 ambulatory surgical treatment centers and accredited
20 ambulatory surgical treatment facilities and establish fee
21 schedule amounts for procedures, treatments, and services for
22 which fee schedule amounts have not been established. The
23 Commission must adopt, in a timely and ongoing manner, all
24 rules necessary to ensure that its responsibilities under this
25 subsection are carried out.

26 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), if

1 the Commission finds that there is a significant limitation on
2 access to quality health care in either a specific field of
3 health care services or a specific geographic limitation on
4 access to health care, it may change the Consumer Price Index-U
5 increase or decrease for that specific field or specific
6 geographic limitation on access to health care to address that
7 limitation.

8 (c) The Commission shall establish by rule a process to
9 review those medical cases or outliers that involve
10 extra-ordinary treatment to determine whether to make an
11 additional adjustment to the maximum payment within a fee
12 schedule for a procedure, treatment, or service.

13 (d) When a patient notifies a provider that the treatment,
14 procedure, or service being sought is for a work-related
15 illness or injury and furnishes the provider the name and
16 address of the responsible employer, the provider shall bill
17 the employer directly. The employer shall make payment and
18 providers shall submit bills and records in accordance with the
19 provisions of this Section.

20 (1) All payments to providers for treatment provided
21 pursuant to this Act shall be made within 30 days of
22 receipt of the bills as long as the claim contains
23 substantially all the required data elements necessary to
24 adjudicate the bills.

25 (2) If the claim does not contain substantially all the
26 required data elements necessary to adjudicate the bill, or

1 the claim is denied for any other reason, in whole or in
2 part, the employer or insurer shall provide written
3 notification, explaining the basis for the denial and
4 describing any additional necessary data elements, to the
5 provider within 30 days of receipt of the bill.

6 (3) In the case of nonpayment to a provider within 30
7 days of receipt of the bill which contained substantially
8 all of the required data elements necessary to adjudicate
9 the bill or nonpayment to a provider of a portion of such a
10 bill up to the lesser of the actual charge or the payment
11 level set by the Commission in the fee schedule established
12 in this Section, the bill, or portion of the bill, shall
13 incur interest at a rate of 1% per month payable to the
14 provider. Any required interest payments shall be made
15 within 30 days after payment.

16 (e) Except as provided in subsections (e-5), (e-10), and
17 (e-15), a provider shall not hold an employee liable for costs
18 related to a non-disputed procedure, treatment, or service
19 rendered in connection with a compensable injury. The
20 provisions of subsections (e-5), (e-10), (e-15), and (e-20)
21 shall not apply if an employee provides information to the
22 provider regarding participation in a group health plan. If the
23 employee participates in a group health plan, the provider may
24 submit a claim for services to the group health plan. If the
25 claim for service is covered by the group health plan, the
26 employee's responsibility shall be limited to applicable

1 deductibles, co-payments, or co-insurance. Except as provided
2 under subsections (e-5), (e-10), (e-15), and (e-20), a provider
3 shall not bill or otherwise attempt to recover from the
4 employee the difference between the provider's charge and the
5 amount paid by the employer or the insurer on a compensable
6 injury, or for medical services or treatment determined by the
7 Commission to be excessive or unnecessary.

8 (e-5) If an employer notifies a provider that the employer
9 does not consider the illness or injury to be compensable under
10 this Act, the provider may seek payment of the provider's
11 actual charges from the employee for any procedure, treatment,
12 or service rendered. Once an employee informs the provider that
13 there is an application filed with the Commission to resolve a
14 dispute over payment of such charges, the provider shall cease
15 any and all efforts to collect payment for the services that
16 are the subject of the dispute. Any statute of limitations or
17 statute of repose applicable to the provider's efforts to
18 collect payment from the employee shall be tolled from the date
19 that the employee files the application with the Commission
20 until the date that the provider is permitted to resume
21 collection efforts under the provisions of this Section.

22 (e-10) If an employer notifies a provider that the employer
23 will pay only a portion of a bill for any procedure, treatment,
24 or service rendered in connection with a compensable illness or
25 disease, the provider may seek payment from the employee for
26 the remainder of the amount of the bill up to the lesser of the

1 actual charge, negotiated rate, if applicable, or the payment
2 level set by the Commission in the fee schedule established in
3 this Section. Once an employee informs the provider that there
4 is an application filed with the Commission to resolve a
5 dispute over payment of such charges, the provider shall cease
6 any and all efforts to collect payment for the services that
7 are the subject of the dispute. Any statute of limitations or
8 statute of repose applicable to the provider's efforts to
9 collect payment from the employee shall be tolled from the date
10 that the employee files the application with the Commission
11 until the date that the provider is permitted to resume
12 collection efforts under the provisions of this Section.

13 (e-15) When there is a dispute over the compensability of
14 or amount of payment for a procedure, treatment, or service,
15 and a case is pending or proceeding before an Arbitrator or the
16 Commission, the provider may mail the employee reminders that
17 the employee will be responsible for payment of any procedure,
18 treatment or service rendered by the provider. The reminders
19 must state that they are not bills, to the extent practicable
20 include itemized information, and state that the employee need
21 not pay until such time as the provider is permitted to resume
22 collection efforts under this Section. The reminders shall not
23 be provided to any credit rating agency. The reminders may
24 request that the employee furnish the provider with information
25 about the proceeding under this Act, such as the file number,
26 names of parties, and status of the case. If an employee fails

1 to respond to such request for information or fails to furnish
2 the information requested within 90 days of the date of the
3 reminder, the provider is entitled to resume any and all
4 efforts to collect payment from the employee for the services
5 rendered to the employee and the employee shall be responsible
6 for payment of any outstanding bills for a procedure,
7 treatment, or service rendered by a provider.

8 (e-20) Upon a final award or judgment by an Arbitrator or
9 the Commission, or a settlement agreed to by the employer and
10 the employee, a provider may resume any and all efforts to
11 collect payment from the employee for the services rendered to
12 the employee and the employee shall be responsible for payment
13 of any outstanding bills for a procedure, treatment, or service
14 rendered by a provider as well as the interest awarded under
15 subsection (d) of this Section. In the case of a procedure,
16 treatment, or service deemed compensable, the provider shall
17 not require a payment rate, excluding the interest provisions
18 under subsection (d), greater than the lesser of the actual
19 charge or the payment level set by the Commission in the fee
20 schedule established in this Section. Payment for services
21 deemed not covered or not compensable under this Act is the
22 responsibility of the employee unless a provider and employee
23 have agreed otherwise in writing. Services not covered or not
24 compensable under this Act are not subject to the fee schedule
25 in this Section.

26 (f) Nothing in this Act shall prohibit an employer or

1 insurer from contracting with a health care provider or group
2 of health care providers for reimbursement levels for benefits
3 under this Act different from those provided in this Section.

4 (g) On or before January 1, 2010 the Commission shall
5 provide to the Governor and General Assembly a report regarding
6 the implementation of the medical fee schedule and the index
7 used for annual adjustment to that schedule as described in
8 this Section.

9 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11.)

10 (820 ILCS 305/8.2a)

11 Sec. 8.2a. Electronic claims.

12 (a) The Director of Insurance shall adopt rules to do all
13 of the following:

14 (1) Ensure that all health care providers and
15 facilities submit medical bills for payment on
16 standardized forms.

17 (2) Require acceptance by employers and insurers of
18 electronic claims for payment of medical services.

19 (3) Ensure confidentiality of medical information
20 submitted on electronic claims for payment of medical
21 services.

22 (4) Ensure that health care providers have at least 15
23 business days to comply with records requested by employers
24 and insurers for the authorization of the payment of
25 workers' compensation claims.

1 (5) Ensure that health care providers are responsible
2 for supplying only those medical records pertaining to the
3 provider's own claims that are minimally necessary under
4 the federal Health Insurance Portability and
5 Accountability Act of 1996.

6 (6) Provide that any electronically submitted bill
7 determined to be complete but not paid or objected to
8 within 30 days shall be subject to penalties pursuant to
9 Section 8.2(d)(3) of this Act to be entered by the
10 Commission.

11 (7) Provide that the Department of Insurance shall
12 impose an administrative fine if it determines that an
13 employer or insurer has failed to comply with the
14 electronic claims acceptance and response process. The
15 amount of the administrative fine shall be no greater than
16 \$1,000 per each violation, but shall not exceed \$10,000 for
17 identical violations during a calendar year.

18 (b) To the extent feasible, standards adopted pursuant to
19 subdivision (a) shall be consistent with existing standards
20 under the federal Health Insurance Portability and
21 Accountability Act of 1996 and standards adopted under the
22 Illinois Health Information Exchange and Technology Act.

23 (c) The rules requiring employers and insurers to accept
24 electronic claims for payment of medical services shall be
25 proposed on or before January 1, 2012, and shall require all
26 employers and insurers to accept electronic claims for payment

1 of medical services on or before June 30, 2012. The Director of
2 Insurance shall adopt rules by June 30, 2018 to implement the
3 changes to this Section made by this amendatory Act of the
4 100th General Assembly. The Commission, with assistance from
5 the Department and the Medical Fee Advisory Board, shall
6 publish on its Internet website a companion guide to assist
7 with compliance with electronic claims rules. The Medical Fee
8 Advisory Board shall periodically review the companion guide.

9 (d) The Director of Insurance shall by rule establish
10 criteria for granting exceptions to employers, insurance
11 carriers, and health care providers who are unable to submit or
12 accept medical bills electronically.

13 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11.)

14 (820 ILCS 305/14) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.14)

15 Sec. 14. The Commission shall appoint a secretary, an
16 assistant secretary, and arbitrators and shall employ such
17 assistants and clerical help as may be necessary. Arbitrators
18 shall be appointed pursuant to this Section, notwithstanding
19 any provision of the Personnel Code.

20 Each arbitrator appointed after June 28, 2011 shall be
21 required to demonstrate in writing his or her knowledge of and
22 expertise in the law of and judicial processes of the Workers'
23 Compensation Act and the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act.

24 A formal training program for newly-hired arbitrators
25 shall be implemented. The training program shall include the

1 following:

2 (a) substantive and procedural aspects of the
3 arbitrator position;

4 (b) current issues in workers' compensation law and
5 practice;

6 (c) medical lectures by specialists in areas such as
7 orthopedics, ophthalmology, psychiatry, rehabilitation
8 counseling;

9 (d) orientation to each operational unit of the
10 Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission;

11 (e) observation of experienced arbitrators conducting
12 hearings of cases, combined with the opportunity to discuss
13 evidence presented and rulings made;

14 (f) the use of hypothetical cases requiring the trainee
15 to issue judgments as a means to evaluating knowledge and
16 writing ability;

17 (g) writing skills;

18 (h) professional and ethical standards pursuant to
19 Section 1.1 of this Act;

20 (i) detection of workers' compensation fraud and
21 reporting obligations of Commission employees and
22 appointees;

23 (j) standards of evidence-based medical treatment and
24 best practices for measuring and improving quality and
25 health care outcomes in the workers' compensation system,
26 including but not limited to the use of the American

1 Medical Association's "Guides to the Evaluation of
2 Permanent Impairment" and the practice of utilization
3 review; and

4 (k) substantive and procedural aspects of coal
5 workers' pneumoconiosis (black lung) cases.

6 A formal and ongoing professional development program
7 including, but not limited to, the above-noted areas shall be
8 implemented to keep arbitrators informed of recent
9 developments and issues and to assist them in maintaining and
10 enhancing their professional competence. Each arbitrator shall
11 complete 20 hours of training in the above-noted areas during
12 every 2 years such arbitrator shall remain in office.

13 Each arbitrator shall devote full time to his or her duties
14 and shall serve when assigned as an acting Commissioner when a
15 Commissioner is unavailable in accordance with the provisions
16 of Section 13 of this Act. Any arbitrator who is an
17 attorney-at-law shall not engage in the practice of law, nor
18 shall any arbitrator hold any other office or position of
19 profit under the United States or this State or any municipal
20 corporation or political subdivision of this State.
21 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act to the
22 contrary, an arbitrator who serves as an acting Commissioner in
23 accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of this Act shall
24 continue to serve in the capacity of Commissioner until a
25 decision is reached in every case heard by that arbitrator
26 while serving as an acting Commissioner.

1 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the
2 term of all arbitrators serving on June 28, 2011 (the effective
3 date of Public Act 97-18), including any arbitrators on
4 administrative leave, shall terminate at the close of business
5 on July 1, 2011, but the incumbents shall continue to exercise
6 all of their duties until they are reappointed or their
7 successors are appointed.

8 On and after June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public
9 Act 97-18), arbitrators shall be appointed to 3-year terms as
10 follows:

11 (1) All appointments shall be made by the Governor with
12 the advice and consent of the Senate.

13 (2) For their initial appointments, 12 arbitrators
14 shall be appointed to terms expiring July 1, 2012; 12
15 arbitrators shall be appointed to terms expiring July 1,
16 2013; and all additional arbitrators shall be appointed to
17 terms expiring July 1, 2014. Thereafter, all arbitrators
18 shall be appointed to 3-year terms.

19 Upon the expiration of a term, the Chairman shall evaluate
20 the performance of the arbitrator and may recommend to the
21 Governor that he or she be reappointed to a second or
22 subsequent term by the Governor with the advice and consent of
23 the Senate.

24 Each arbitrator appointed on or after June 28, 2011 (the
25 effective date of Public Act 97-18) and who has not previously
26 served as an arbitrator for the Commission shall be required to

1 be authorized to practice law in this State by the Supreme
2 Court, and to maintain this authorization throughout his or her
3 term of employment.

4 The performance of all arbitrators shall be reviewed by the
5 Chairman on an annual basis. The Chairman shall allow input
6 from the Commissioners in all such reviews.

7 The Commission shall assign no fewer than 3 arbitrators to
8 each hearing site. The Commission shall establish a procedure
9 to ensure that the arbitrators assigned to each hearing site
10 are assigned cases on a random basis. The Chairman of the
11 Commission shall have discretion to assign and reassign
12 arbitrators to each hearing sites as needed. ~~No arbitrator~~
13 ~~shall hear cases in any county, other than Cook County, for~~
14 ~~more than 2 years in each 3-year term.~~

15 The Secretary and each arbitrator shall receive a per annum
16 salary of \$4,000 less than the per annum salary of members of
17 The Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission as provided in
18 Section 13 of this Act, payable in equal monthly installments.

19 The members of the Commission, Arbitrators and other
20 employees whose duties require them to travel, shall have
21 reimbursed to them their actual traveling expenses and
22 disbursements made or incurred by them in the discharge of
23 their official duties while away from their place of residence
24 in the performance of their duties.

25 The Commission shall provide itself with a seal for the
26 authentication of its orders, awards and proceedings upon which

1 shall be inscribed the name of the Commission and the words
2 "Illinois--Seal".

3 The Secretary or Assistant Secretary, under the direction
4 of the Commission, shall have charge and custody of the seal of
5 the Commission and also have charge and custody of all records,
6 files, orders, proceedings, decisions, awards and other
7 documents on file with the Commission. He shall furnish
8 certified copies, under the seal of the Commission, of any such
9 records, files, orders, proceedings, decisions, awards and
10 other documents on file with the Commission as may be required.
11 Certified copies so furnished by the Secretary or Assistant
12 Secretary shall be received in evidence before the Commission
13 or any Arbitrator thereof, and in all courts, provided that the
14 original of such certified copy is otherwise competent and
15 admissible in evidence. The Secretary or Assistant Secretary
16 shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed from time
17 to time by the Commission.

18 (Source: P.A. 98-40, eff. 6-28-13; 99-642, eff. 7-28-16.)

19 (820 ILCS 305/19) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.19)

20 Sec. 19. Any disputed questions of law or fact shall be
21 determined as herein provided.

22 (a) It shall be the duty of the Commission upon
23 notification that the parties have failed to reach an
24 agreement, to designate an Arbitrator.

25 1. Whenever any claimant misconceives his remedy and

1 files an application for adjustment of claim under this Act
2 and it is subsequently discovered, at any time before final
3 disposition of such cause, that the claim for disability or
4 death which was the basis for such application should
5 properly have been made under the Workers' Occupational
6 Diseases Act, then the provisions of Section 19, paragraph
7 (a-1) of the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act having
8 reference to such application shall apply.

9 2. Whenever any claimant misconceives his remedy and
10 files an application for adjustment of claim under the
11 Workers' Occupational Diseases Act and it is subsequently
12 discovered, at any time before final disposition of such
13 cause that the claim for injury or death which was the
14 basis for such application should properly have been made
15 under this Act, then the application so filed under the
16 Workers' Occupational Diseases Act may be amended in form,
17 substance or both to assert claim for such disability or
18 death under this Act and it shall be deemed to have been so
19 filed as amended on the date of the original filing
20 thereof, and such compensation may be awarded as is
21 warranted by the whole evidence pursuant to this Act. When
22 such amendment is submitted, further or additional
23 evidence may be heard by the Arbitrator or Commission when
24 deemed necessary. Nothing in this Section contained shall
25 be construed to be or permit a waiver of any provisions of
26 this Act with reference to notice but notice if given shall

1 be deemed to be a notice under the provisions of this Act
2 if given within the time required herein.

3 (b) The Arbitrator shall make such inquiries and
4 investigations as he or they shall deem necessary and may
5 examine and inspect all books, papers, records, places, or
6 premises relating to the questions in dispute and hear such
7 proper evidence as the parties may submit.

8 The hearings before the Arbitrator shall be held in the
9 vicinity where the injury occurred after 10 days' notice of the
10 time and place of such hearing shall have been given to each of
11 the parties or their attorneys of record.

12 The Arbitrator may find that the disabling condition is
13 temporary and has not yet reached a permanent condition and may
14 order the payment of compensation up to the date of the
15 hearing, which award shall be reviewable and enforceable in the
16 same manner as other awards, and in no instance be a bar to a
17 further hearing and determination of a further amount of
18 temporary total compensation or of compensation for permanent
19 disability, but shall be conclusive as to all other questions
20 except the nature and extent of said disability.

21 The decision of the Arbitrator shall be filed with the
22 Commission which Commission shall immediately send to each
23 party or his attorney a copy of such decision, together with a
24 notification of the time when it was filed. As of the effective
25 date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, all
26 decisions of the Arbitrator shall set forth in writing findings

1 of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated, if requested
2 by either party. Unless a petition for review is filed by
3 either party within 30 days after the receipt by such party of
4 the copy of the decision and notification of time when filed,
5 and unless such party petitioning for a review shall within 35
6 days after the receipt by him of the copy of the decision, file
7 with the Commission either an agreed statement of the facts
8 appearing upon the hearing before the Arbitrator, or if such
9 party shall so elect a correct transcript of evidence of the
10 proceedings at such hearings, then the decision shall become
11 the decision of the Commission and in the absence of fraud
12 shall be conclusive. The Petition for Review shall contain a
13 statement of the petitioning party's specific exceptions to the
14 decision of the arbitrator. The jurisdiction of the Commission
15 to review the decision of the arbitrator shall not be limited
16 to the exceptions stated in the Petition for Review. The
17 Commission, or any member thereof, may grant further time not
18 exceeding 30 days, in which to file such agreed statement or
19 transcript of evidence. Such agreed statement of facts or
20 correct transcript of evidence, as the case may be, shall be
21 authenticated by the signatures of the parties or their
22 attorneys, and in the event they do not agree as to the
23 correctness of the transcript of evidence it shall be
24 authenticated by the signature of the Arbitrator designated by
25 the Commission.

26 Whether the employee is working or not, if the employee is

1 not receiving or has not received medical, surgical, or
2 hospital services or other services or compensation as provided
3 in paragraph (a) of Section 8, or compensation as provided in
4 paragraph (b) of Section 8, the employee may at any time
5 petition for an expedited hearing by an Arbitrator on the issue
6 of whether or not he or she is entitled to receive payment of
7 the services or compensation. Provided the employer continues
8 to pay compensation pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section 8, the
9 employer may at any time petition for an expedited hearing on
10 the issue of whether or not the employee is entitled to receive
11 medical, surgical, or hospital services or other services or
12 compensation as provided in paragraph (a) of Section 8, or
13 compensation as provided in paragraph (b) of Section 8. When an
14 employer has petitioned for an expedited hearing, the employer
15 shall continue to pay compensation as provided in paragraph (b)
16 of Section 8 unless the arbitrator renders a decision that the
17 employee is not entitled to the benefits that are the subject
18 of the expedited hearing or unless the employee's treating
19 physician has released the employee to return to work at his or
20 her regular job with the employer or the employee actually
21 returns to work at any other job. If the arbitrator renders a
22 decision that the employee is not entitled to the benefits that
23 are the subject of the expedited hearing, a petition for review
24 filed by the employee shall receive the same priority as if the
25 employee had filed a petition for an expedited hearing by an
26 Arbitrator. Neither party shall be entitled to an expedited

1 hearing when the employee has returned to work and the sole
2 issue in dispute amounts to less than 12 weeks of unpaid
3 compensation pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section 8.

4 Expedited hearings shall have priority over all other
5 petitions and shall be heard by the Arbitrator and Commission
6 with all convenient speed. Any party requesting an expedited
7 hearing shall give notice of a request for an expedited hearing
8 under this paragraph. A copy of the Application for Adjustment
9 of Claim shall be attached to the notice. The Commission shall
10 adopt rules and procedures under which the final decision of
11 the Commission under this paragraph is filed not later than 180
12 days from the date that the Petition for Review is filed with
13 the Commission.

14 Where 2 or more insurance carriers, private self-insureds,
15 or a group workers' compensation pool under Article V 3/4 of
16 the Illinois Insurance Code dispute coverage for the same
17 injury, any such insurance carrier, private self-insured, or
18 group workers' compensation pool may request an expedited
19 hearing pursuant to this paragraph to determine the issue of
20 coverage, provided coverage is the only issue in dispute and
21 all other issues are stipulated and agreed to and further
22 provided that all compensation benefits including medical
23 benefits pursuant to Section 8(a) continue to be paid to or on
24 behalf of petitioner. Any insurance carrier, private
25 self-insured, or group workers' compensation pool that is
26 determined to be liable for coverage for the injury in issue

1 shall reimburse any insurance carrier, private self-insured,
2 or group workers' compensation pool that has paid benefits to
3 or on behalf of petitioner for the injury.

4 (b-1) If the employee is not receiving medical, surgical or
5 hospital services as provided in paragraph (a) of Section 8 or
6 compensation as provided in paragraph (b) of Section 8, the
7 employee, in accordance with Commission Rules, may file a
8 petition for an emergency hearing by an Arbitrator on the issue
9 of whether or not he is entitled to receive payment of such
10 compensation or services as provided therein. Such petition
11 shall have priority over all other petitions and shall be heard
12 by the Arbitrator and Commission with all convenient speed.

13 Such petition shall contain the following information and
14 shall be served on the employer at least 15 days before it is
15 filed:

- 16 (i) the date and approximate time of accident;
17 (ii) the approximate location of the accident;
18 (iii) a description of the accident;
19 (iv) the nature of the injury incurred by the employee;
20 (v) the identity of the person, if known, to whom the
21 accident was reported and the date on which it was
22 reported;
23 (vi) the name and title of the person, if known,
24 representing the employer with whom the employee conferred
25 in any effort to obtain compensation pursuant to paragraph
26 (b) of Section 8 of this Act or medical, surgical or

1 hospital services pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section 8 of
2 this Act and the date of such conference;

3 (vii) a statement that the employer has refused to pay
4 compensation pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section 8 of this
5 Act or for medical, surgical or hospital services pursuant
6 to paragraph (a) of Section 8 of this Act;

7 (viii) the name and address, if known, of each witness
8 to the accident and of each other person upon whom the
9 employee will rely to support his allegations;

10 (ix) the dates of treatment related to the accident by
11 medical practitioners, and the names and addresses of such
12 practitioners, including the dates of treatment related to
13 the accident at any hospitals and the names and addresses
14 of such hospitals, and a signed authorization permitting
15 the employer to examine all medical records of all
16 practitioners and hospitals named pursuant to this
17 paragraph;

18 (x) a copy of a signed report by a medical
19 practitioner, relating to the employee's current inability
20 to return to work because of the injuries incurred as a
21 result of the accident or such other documents or
22 affidavits which show that the employee is entitled to
23 receive compensation pursuant to paragraph (b) of Section 8
24 of this Act or medical, surgical or hospital services
25 pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section 8 of this Act. Such
26 reports, documents or affidavits shall state, if possible,

1 the history of the accident given by the employee, and
2 describe the injury and medical diagnosis, the medical
3 services for such injury which the employee has received
4 and is receiving, the physical activities which the
5 employee cannot currently perform as a result of any
6 impairment or disability due to such injury, and the
7 prognosis for recovery;

8 (xi) complete copies of any reports, records,
9 documents and affidavits in the possession of the employee
10 on which the employee will rely to support his allegations,
11 provided that the employer shall pay the reasonable cost of
12 reproduction thereof;

13 (xii) a list of any reports, records, documents and
14 affidavits which the employee has demanded by subpoena and
15 on which he intends to rely to support his allegations;

16 (xiii) a certification signed by the employee or his
17 representative that the employer has received the petition
18 with the required information 15 days before filing.

19 Fifteen days after receipt by the employer of the petition
20 with the required information the employee may file said
21 petition and required information and shall serve notice of the
22 filing upon the employer. The employer may file a motion
23 addressed to the sufficiency of the petition. If an objection
24 has been filed to the sufficiency of the petition, the
25 arbitrator shall rule on the objection within 2 working days.
26 If such an objection is filed, the time for filing the final

1 decision of the Commission as provided in this paragraph shall
2 be tolled until the arbitrator has determined that the petition
3 is sufficient.

4 The employer shall, within 15 days after receipt of the
5 notice that such petition is filed, file with the Commission
6 and serve on the employee or his representative a written
7 response to each claim set forth in the petition, including the
8 legal and factual basis for each disputed allegation and the
9 following information: (i) complete copies of any reports,
10 records, documents and affidavits in the possession of the
11 employer on which the employer intends to rely in support of
12 his response, (ii) a list of any reports, records, documents
13 and affidavits which the employer has demanded by subpoena and
14 on which the employer intends to rely in support of his
15 response, (iii) the name and address of each witness on whom
16 the employer will rely to support his response, and (iv) the
17 names and addresses of any medical practitioners selected by
18 the employer pursuant to Section 12 of this Act and the time
19 and place of any examination scheduled to be made pursuant to
20 such Section.

21 Any employer who does not timely file and serve a written
22 response without good cause may not introduce any evidence to
23 dispute any claim of the employee but may cross examine the
24 employee or any witness brought by the employee and otherwise
25 be heard.

26 No document or other evidence not previously identified by

1 either party with the petition or written response, or by any
2 other means before the hearing, may be introduced into evidence
3 without good cause. If, at the hearing, material information is
4 discovered which was not previously disclosed, the Arbitrator
5 may extend the time for closing proof on the motion of a party
6 for a reasonable period of time which may be more than 30 days.
7 No evidence may be introduced pursuant to this paragraph as to
8 permanent disability. No award may be entered for permanent
9 disability pursuant to this paragraph. Either party may
10 introduce into evidence the testimony taken by deposition of
11 any medical practitioner.

12 The Commission shall adopt rules, regulations and
13 procedures whereby the final decision of the Commission is
14 filed not later than 90 days from the date the petition for
15 review is filed but in no event later than 180 days from the
16 date the petition for an emergency hearing is filed with the
17 Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission.

18 All service required pursuant to this paragraph (b-1) must
19 be by personal service or by certified mail and with evidence
20 of receipt. In addition for the purposes of this paragraph, all
21 service on the employer must be at the premises where the
22 accident occurred if the premises are owned or operated by the
23 employer. Otherwise service must be at the employee's principal
24 place of employment by the employer. If service on the employer
25 is not possible at either of the above, then service shall be
26 at the employer's principal place of business. After initial

1 service in each case, service shall be made on the employer's
2 attorney or designated representative.

3 (c) (1) At a reasonable time in advance of and in connection
4 with the hearing under Section 19(e) or 19(h), the Commission
5 may on its own motion order an impartial physical or mental
6 examination of a petitioner whose mental or physical condition
7 is in issue, when in the Commission's discretion it appears
8 that such an examination will materially aid in the just
9 determination of the case. The examination shall be made by a
10 member or members of a panel of physicians chosen for their
11 special qualifications by the Illinois State Medical Society.
12 The Commission shall establish procedures by which a physician
13 shall be selected from such list.

14 (2) Should the Commission at any time during the hearing
15 find that compelling considerations make it advisable to have
16 an examination and report at that time, the commission may in
17 its discretion so order.

18 (3) A copy of the report of examination shall be given to
19 the Commission and to the attorneys for the parties.

20 (4) Either party or the Commission may call the examining
21 physician or physicians to testify. Any physician so called
22 shall be subject to cross-examination.

23 (5) The examination shall be made, and the physician or
24 physicians, if called, shall testify, without cost to the
25 parties. The Commission shall determine the compensation and
26 the pay of the physician or physicians. The compensation for

1 this service shall not exceed the usual and customary amount
2 for such service.

3 (6) The fees and payment thereof of all attorneys and
4 physicians for services authorized by the Commission under this
5 Act shall, upon request of either the employer or the employee
6 or the beneficiary affected, be subject to the review and
7 decision of the Commission.

8 (d) If any employee shall persist in insanitary or
9 injurious practices which tend to either imperil or retard his
10 recovery or shall refuse to submit to such medical, surgical,
11 or hospital treatment as is reasonably essential to promote his
12 recovery, the Commission may, in its discretion, reduce or
13 suspend the compensation of any such injured employee. However,
14 when an employer and employee so agree in writing, the
15 foregoing provision shall not be construed to authorize the
16 reduction or suspension of compensation of an employee who is
17 relying in good faith, on treatment by prayer or spiritual
18 means alone, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a
19 recognized church or religious denomination, by a duly
20 accredited practitioner thereof.

21 (e) This paragraph shall apply to all hearings before the
22 Commission. Such hearings may be held in its office or
23 elsewhere as the Commission may deem advisable. The taking of
24 testimony on such hearings may be had before any member of the
25 Commission. If a petition for review and agreed statement of
26 facts or transcript of evidence is filed, as provided herein,

1 the Commission shall promptly review the decision of the
2 Arbitrator and all questions of law or fact which appear from
3 the statement of facts or transcript of evidence.

4 In all cases in which the hearing before the arbitrator is
5 held after December 18, 1989, no additional evidence shall be
6 introduced by the parties before the Commission on review of
7 the decision of the Arbitrator. In reviewing decisions of an
8 arbitrator the Commission shall award such temporary
9 compensation, permanent compensation and other payments as are
10 due under this Act. The Commission shall file in its office its
11 decision thereon, and shall immediately send to each party or
12 his attorney a copy of such decision and a notification of the
13 time when it was filed. Decisions shall be filed within 60 days
14 after the Statement of Exceptions and Supporting Brief and
15 Response thereto are required to be filed or oral argument
16 whichever is later.

17 In the event either party requests oral argument, such
18 argument shall be had before a panel of 3 members of the
19 Commission (or before all available members pursuant to the
20 determination of 7 members of the Commission that such argument
21 be held before all available members of the Commission)
22 pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Commission. A
23 panel of 3 members, which shall be comprised of not more than
24 one representative citizen of the employing class and not more
25 than one representative citizen of the employee class, shall
26 hear the argument; provided that if all the issues in dispute

1 are solely the nature and extent of the permanent partial
2 disability, if any, a majority of the panel may deny the
3 request for such argument and such argument shall not be held;
4 and provided further that 7 members of the Commission may
5 determine that the argument be held before all available
6 members of the Commission. A decision of the Commission shall
7 be approved by a majority of Commissioners present at such
8 hearing if any; provided, if no such hearing is held, a
9 decision of the Commission shall be approved by a majority of a
10 panel of 3 members of the Commission as described in this
11 Section. The Commission shall give 10 days' notice to the
12 parties or their attorneys of the time and place of such taking
13 of testimony and of such argument.

14 In any case the Commission in its decision may find
15 specially upon any question or questions of law or fact which
16 shall be submitted in writing by either party whether ultimate
17 or otherwise; provided that on issues other than nature and
18 extent of the disability, if any, the Commission in its
19 decision shall find specially upon any question or questions of
20 law or fact, whether ultimate or otherwise, which are submitted
21 in writing by either party; provided further that not more than
22 5 such questions may be submitted by either party. Any party
23 may, within 20 days after receipt of notice of the Commission's
24 decision, or within such further time, not exceeding 30 days,
25 as the Commission may grant, file with the Commission either an
26 agreed statement of the facts appearing upon the hearing, or,

1 if such party shall so elect, a correct transcript of evidence
2 of the additional proceedings presented before the Commission,
3 in which report the party may embody a correct statement of
4 such other proceedings in the case as such party may desire to
5 have reviewed, such statement of facts or transcript of
6 evidence to be authenticated by the signature of the parties or
7 their attorneys, and in the event that they do not agree, then
8 the authentication of such transcript of evidence shall be by
9 the signature of any member of the Commission.

10 If a reporter does not for any reason furnish a transcript
11 of the proceedings before the Arbitrator in any case for use on
12 a hearing for review before the Commission, within the
13 limitations of time as fixed in this Section, the Commission
14 may, in its discretion, order a trial de novo before the
15 Commission in such case upon application of either party. The
16 applications for adjustment of claim and other documents in the
17 nature of pleadings filed by either party, together with the
18 decisions of the Arbitrator and of the Commission and the
19 statement of facts or transcript of evidence hereinbefore
20 provided for in paragraphs (b) and (c) shall be the record of
21 the proceedings of the Commission, and shall be subject to
22 review as hereinafter provided.

23 At the request of either party or on its own motion, the
24 Commission shall set forth in writing the reasons for the
25 decision, including findings of fact and conclusions of law
26 separately stated. The Commission shall by rule adopt a format

1 for written decisions for the Commission and arbitrators. The
2 written decisions shall be concise and shall succinctly state
3 the facts and reasons for the decision. The Commission may
4 adopt in whole or in part, the decision of the arbitrator as
5 the decision of the Commission. When the Commission does so
6 adopt the decision of the arbitrator, it shall do so by order.
7 Whenever the Commission adopts part of the arbitrator's
8 decision, but not all, it shall include in the order the
9 reasons for not adopting all of the arbitrator's decision. When
10 a majority of a panel, after deliberation, has arrived at its
11 decision, the decision shall be filed as provided in this
12 Section without unnecessary delay, and without regard to the
13 fact that a member of the panel has expressed an intention to
14 dissent. Any member of the panel may file a dissent. Any
15 dissent shall be filed no later than 10 days after the decision
16 of the majority has been filed.

17 Decisions rendered by the Commission and dissents, if any,
18 shall be published together by the Commission. The conclusions
19 of law set out in such decisions shall be regarded as
20 precedents by arbitrators for the purpose of achieving a more
21 uniform administration of this Act.

22 (f) The decision of the Commission acting within its
23 powers, according to the provisions of paragraph (e) of this
24 Section shall, in the absence of fraud, be conclusive unless
25 reviewed as in this paragraph hereinafter provided. However,
26 the Arbitrator or the Commission may on his or its own motion,

1 or on the motion of either party, correct any clerical error or
2 errors in computation within 15 days after the date of receipt
3 of any award by such Arbitrator or any decision on review of
4 the Commission and shall have the power to recall the original
5 award on arbitration or decision on review, and issue in lieu
6 thereof such corrected award or decision. Where such correction
7 is made the time for review herein specified shall begin to run
8 from the date of the receipt of the corrected award or
9 decision.

10 (1) Except in cases of claims against the State of
11 Illinois other than those claims under Section 18.1, in
12 which case the decision of the Commission shall not be
13 subject to judicial review, the Circuit Court of the county
14 where any of the parties defendant may be found, or if none
15 of the parties defendant can be found in this State then
16 the Circuit Court of the county where the accident
17 occurred, shall by summons to the Commission have power to
18 review all questions of law and fact presented by such
19 record.

20 A proceeding for review shall be commenced within 20
21 days of the receipt of notice of the decision of the
22 Commission. The summons shall be issued by the clerk of
23 such court upon written request returnable on a designated
24 return day, not less than 10 or more than 60 days from the
25 date of issuance thereof, and the written request shall
26 contain the last known address of other parties in interest

1 and their attorneys of record who are to be served by
2 summons. Service upon any member of the Commission or the
3 Secretary or the Assistant Secretary thereof shall be
4 service upon the Commission, and service upon other parties
5 in interest and their attorneys of record shall be by
6 summons, and such service shall be made upon the Commission
7 and other parties in interest by mailing notices of the
8 commencement of the proceedings and the return day of the
9 summons to the office of the Commission and to the last
10 known place of residence of other parties in interest or
11 their attorney or attorneys of record. The clerk of the
12 court issuing the summons shall on the day of issue mail
13 notice of the commencement of the proceedings which shall
14 be done by mailing a copy of the summons to the office of
15 the Commission, and a copy of the summons to the other
16 parties in interest or their attorney or attorneys of
17 record and the clerk of the court shall make certificate
18 that he has so sent said notices in pursuance of this
19 Section, which shall be evidence of service on the
20 Commission and other parties in interest.

21 The Commission shall not be required to certify the
22 record of their proceedings to the Circuit Court, unless
23 the party commencing the proceedings for review in the
24 Circuit Court as above provided, shall file with the
25 Commission notice of intent to file for review in Circuit
26 Court. It shall be the duty of the Commission upon such

1 filing of notice of intent to file for review in the
2 Circuit Court to prepare a true and correct copy of such
3 testimony and a true and correct copy of all other matters
4 contained in such record and certified to by the Secretary
5 or Assistant Secretary thereof. The changes made to this
6 subdivision (f)(1) by this amendatory Act of the 98th
7 General Assembly apply to any Commission decision entered
8 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th
9 General Assembly.

10 No request for a summons may be filed and no summons
11 shall issue unless the party seeking to review the decision
12 of the Commission shall exhibit to the clerk of the Circuit
13 Court proof of filing with the Commission of the notice of
14 the intent to file for review in the Circuit Court or an
15 affidavit of the attorney setting forth that notice of
16 intent to file for review in the Circuit Court has been
17 given in writing to the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of
18 the Commission.

19 (2) No such summons shall issue unless the one against
20 whom the Commission shall have rendered an award for the
21 payment of money shall upon the filing of his written
22 request for such summons file with the clerk of the court a
23 bond conditioned that if he shall not successfully
24 prosecute the review, he will pay the award and the costs
25 of the proceedings in the courts. The amount of the bond
26 shall be fixed by any member of the Commission and the

1 surety or sureties of the bond shall be approved by the
2 clerk of the court. The acceptance of the bond by the clerk
3 of the court shall constitute evidence of his approval of
4 the bond.

5 The State of Illinois, including its constitutional
6 officers, boards, commissions, agencies, public
7 institutions of higher learning, and funds administered by
8 the treasurer ex officio, and every ~~Every~~ county, city,
9 town, township, incorporated village, school district,
10 body politic or municipal corporation against whom the
11 Commission shall have rendered an award for the payment of
12 money shall not be required to file a bond to secure the
13 payment of the award and the costs of the proceedings in
14 the court to authorize the court to issue such summons.

15 The court may confirm or set aside the decision of the
16 Commission. If the decision is set aside and the facts
17 found in the proceedings before the Commission are
18 sufficient, the court may enter such decision as is
19 justified by law, or may remand the cause to the Commission
20 for further proceedings and may state the questions
21 requiring further hearing, and give such other
22 instructions as may be proper. Appeals shall be taken to
23 the Appellate Court in accordance with Supreme Court Rules
24 22(g) and 303. Appeals shall be taken from the Appellate
25 Court to the Supreme Court in accordance with Supreme Court
26 Rule 315.

1 It shall be the duty of the clerk of any court
2 rendering a decision affecting or affirming an award of the
3 Commission to promptly furnish the Commission with a copy
4 of such decision, without charge.

5 The decision of a majority of the members of the panel
6 of the Commission, shall be considered the decision of the
7 Commission.

8 (g) Except in the case of a claim against the State of
9 Illinois, either party may present a certified copy of the
10 award of the Arbitrator, or a certified copy of the decision of
11 the Commission when the same has become final, when no
12 proceedings for review are pending, providing for the payment
13 of compensation according to this Act, to the Circuit Court of
14 the county in which such accident occurred or either of the
15 parties are residents, whereupon the court shall enter a
16 judgment in accordance therewith. In a case where the employer
17 refuses to pay compensation according to such final award or
18 such final decision upon which such judgment is entered the
19 court shall in entering judgment thereon, tax as costs against
20 him the reasonable costs and attorney fees in the arbitration
21 proceedings and in the court entering the judgment for the
22 person in whose favor the judgment is entered, which judgment
23 and costs taxed as therein provided shall, until and unless set
24 aside, have the same effect as though duly entered in an action
25 duly tried and determined by the court, and shall with like
26 effect, be entered and docketed. The Circuit Court shall have

1 power at any time upon application to make any such judgment
2 conform to any modification required by any subsequent decision
3 of the Supreme Court upon appeal, or as the result of any
4 subsequent proceedings for review, as provided in this Act.

5 Judgment shall not be entered until 15 days' notice of the
6 time and place of the application for the entry of judgment
7 shall be served upon the employer by filing such notice with
8 the Commission, which Commission shall, in case it has on file
9 the address of the employer or the name and address of its
10 agent upon whom notices may be served, immediately send a copy
11 of the notice to the employer or such designated agent.

12 (h) An agreement or award under this Act providing for
13 compensation in installments, may at any time within 18 months
14 after such agreement or award be reviewed by the Commission at
15 the request of either the employer or the employee, on the
16 ground that the disability of the employee has subsequently
17 recurred, increased, diminished or ended.

18 However, as to accidents occurring subsequent to July 1,
19 1955, which are covered by any agreement or award under this
20 Act providing for compensation in installments made as a result
21 of such accident, such agreement or award may at any time
22 within 30 months, or 60 months in the case of an award under
23 Section 8(d)1, after such agreement or award be reviewed by the
24 Commission at the request of either the employer or the
25 employee on the ground that the disability of the employee has
26 subsequently recurred, increased, diminished or ended.

1 On such review, compensation payments may be
2 re-established, increased, diminished or ended. The Commission
3 shall give 15 days' notice to the parties of the hearing for
4 review. Any employee, upon any petition for such review being
5 filed by the employer, shall be entitled to one day's notice
6 for each 100 miles necessary to be traveled by him in attending
7 the hearing of the Commission upon the petition, and 3 days in
8 addition thereto. Such employee shall, at the discretion of the
9 Commission, also be entitled to 5 cents per mile necessarily
10 traveled by him within the State of Illinois in attending such
11 hearing, not to exceed a distance of 300 miles, to be taxed by
12 the Commission as costs and deposited with the petition of the
13 employer.

14 When compensation which is payable in accordance with an
15 award or settlement contract approved by the Commission, is
16 ordered paid in a lump sum by the Commission, no review shall
17 be had as in this paragraph mentioned.

18 (i) Each party, upon taking any proceedings or steps
19 whatsoever before any Arbitrator, Commission or court, shall
20 file with the Commission his address, or the name and address
21 of any agent upon whom all notices to be given to such party
22 shall be served, either personally or by registered mail,
23 addressed to such party or agent at the last address so filed
24 with the Commission. In the event such party has not filed his
25 address, or the name and address of an agent as above provided,
26 service of any notice may be had by filing such notice with the

1 Commission.

2 (j) Whenever in any proceeding testimony has been taken or
3 a final decision has been rendered and after the taking of such
4 testimony or after such decision has become final, the injured
5 employee dies, then in any subsequent proceedings brought by
6 the personal representative or beneficiaries of the deceased
7 employee, such testimony in the former proceeding may be
8 introduced with the same force and effect as though the witness
9 having so testified were present in person in such subsequent
10 proceedings and such final decision, if any, shall be taken as
11 final adjudication of any of the issues which are the same in
12 both proceedings.

13 (k) In case where there has been any unreasonable or
14 vexatious delay of payment or intentional underpayment of
15 compensation, or proceedings have been instituted or carried on
16 by the one liable to pay the compensation, which do not present
17 a real controversy, but are merely frivolous or for delay, then
18 the Commission may award compensation additional to that
19 otherwise payable under this Act equal to 50% of the amount
20 payable at the time of such award. Failure to pay compensation
21 in accordance with the provisions of Section 8, paragraph (b)
22 of this Act, shall be considered unreasonable delay.

23 When determining whether this subsection (k) shall apply,
24 the Commission shall consider whether an Arbitrator has
25 determined that the claim is not compensable or whether the
26 employer has made payments under Section 8(j).

1 (k-1) In a case where there has been unreasonable or
2 vexatious delay of authorization of medical treatment, the
3 Commission may award compensation additional to that otherwise
4 payable under this Act in the sum of \$30 per day for each day
5 that the benefits under Section 8(a) have been so withheld or
6 refused, not to exceed \$10,000 or the total amount due per
7 Section 8.2 for treatment to be rendered, whichever is less.

8 Unless utilization review under Section 8.7 or Section 12
9 examination is, or has been, requested, a delay in
10 authorization of 14 days or more from the employer's receipt of
11 all appropriate records and data elements needed to allow the
12 employer to make a determination whether to authorize such care
13 shall create a rebuttable presumption of unreasonable delay.

14 This subsection (k-1) is the only penalty provision within
15 the Act applicable to delay of authorization of medical
16 treatment and shall apply only to health care services provided
17 or proposed to be provided on or after the effective date of
18 this amendatory Act of the 100th General Assembly.

19 (1) If the employee has made written demand for payment of
20 benefits under Section 8(a) or Section 8(b), the employer shall
21 have 14 days after receipt of the demand to set forth in
22 writing the reason for the delay. In the case of demand for
23 payment of medical benefits under Section 8(a), the time for
24 the employer to respond shall not commence until the expiration
25 of the allotted 30 days specified under Section 8.2(d). In case
26 the employer or his or her insurance carrier shall without good

1 and just cause fail, neglect, refuse, or unreasonably delay the
2 payment of benefits under Section 8(a) or Section 8(b), the
3 Arbitrator or the Commission shall allow to the employee
4 additional compensation in the sum of \$30 per day for each day
5 that the benefits under Section 8(a) or Section 8(b) have been
6 so withheld or refused, not to exceed \$10,000. A delay in
7 payment of 14 days or more shall create a rebuttable
8 presumption of unreasonable delay.

9 (m) If the commission finds that an accidental injury was
10 directly and proximately caused by the employer's wilful
11 violation of a health and safety standard under the Health and
12 Safety Act or the Occupational Safety and Health Act in force
13 at the time of the accident, the arbitrator or the Commission
14 shall allow to the injured employee or his dependents, as the
15 case may be, additional compensation equal to 25% of the amount
16 which otherwise would be payable under the provisions of this
17 Act exclusive of this paragraph. The additional compensation
18 herein provided shall be allowed by an appropriate increase in
19 the applicable weekly compensation rate.

20 (n) After June 30, 1984, decisions of the Illinois Workers'
21 Compensation Commission reviewing an award of an arbitrator of
22 the Commission shall draw interest at a rate equal to the yield
23 on indebtedness issued by the United States Government with a
24 26-week maturity next previously auctioned on the day on which
25 the decision is filed. Said rate of interest shall be set forth
26 in the Arbitrator's Decision. Interest shall be drawn from the

1 date of the arbitrator's award on all accrued compensation due
2 the employee through the day prior to the date of payments.
3 However, when an employee appeals an award of an Arbitrator or
4 the Commission, and the appeal results in no change or a
5 decrease in the award, interest shall not further accrue from
6 the date of such appeal.

7 The employer or his insurance carrier may tender the
8 payments due under the award to stop the further accrual of
9 interest on such award notwithstanding the prosecution by
10 either party of review, certiorari, appeal to the Supreme Court
11 or other steps to reverse, vacate or modify the award.

12 (o) By the 15th day of each month each insurer providing
13 coverage for losses under this Act shall notify each insured
14 employer of any compensable claim incurred during the preceding
15 month and the amounts paid or reserved on the claim including a
16 summary of the claim and a brief statement of the reasons for
17 compensability. A cumulative report of all claims incurred
18 during a calendar year or continued from the previous year
19 shall be furnished to the insured employer by the insurer
20 within 30 days after the end of that calendar year.

21 The insured employer may challenge, in proceeding before
22 the Commission, payments made by the insurer without
23 arbitration and payments made after a case is determined to be
24 noncompensable. If the Commission finds that the case was not
25 compensable, the insurer shall purge its records as to that
26 employer of any loss or expense associated with the claim,

1 reimburse the employer for attorneys' fees arising from the
2 challenge and for any payment required of the employer to the
3 Rate Adjustment Fund or the Second Injury Fund, and may not
4 reflect the loss or expense for rate making purposes. The
5 employee shall not be required to refund the challenged
6 payment. The decision of the Commission may be reviewed in the
7 same manner as in arbitrated cases. No challenge may be
8 initiated under this paragraph more than 3 years after the
9 payment is made. An employer may waive the right of challenge
10 under this paragraph on a case by case basis.

11 (p) After filing an application for adjustment of claim but
12 prior to the hearing on arbitration the parties may voluntarily
13 agree to submit such application for adjustment of claim for
14 decision by an arbitrator under this subsection (p) where such
15 application for adjustment of claim raises only a dispute over
16 temporary total disability, permanent partial disability or
17 medical expenses. Such agreement shall be in writing in such
18 form as provided by the Commission. Applications for adjustment
19 of claim submitted for decision by an arbitrator under this
20 subsection (p) shall proceed according to rule as established
21 by the Commission. The Commission shall promulgate rules
22 including, but not limited to, rules to ensure that the parties
23 are adequately informed of their rights under this subsection
24 (p) and of the voluntary nature of proceedings under this
25 subsection (p). The findings of fact made by an arbitrator
26 acting within his or her powers under this subsection (p) in

1 the absence of fraud shall be conclusive. However, the
2 arbitrator may on his own motion, or the motion of either
3 party, correct any clerical errors or errors in computation
4 within 15 days after the date of receipt of such award of the
5 arbitrator and shall have the power to recall the original
6 award on arbitration, and issue in lieu thereof such corrected
7 award. The decision of the arbitrator under this subsection (p)
8 shall be considered the decision of the Commission and
9 proceedings for review of questions of law arising from the
10 decision may be commenced by either party pursuant to
11 subsection (f) of Section 19. The Advisory Board established
12 under Section 13.1 shall compile a list of certified Commission
13 arbitrators, each of whom shall be approved by at least 7
14 members of the Advisory Board. The chairman shall select 5
15 persons from such list to serve as arbitrators under this
16 subsection (p). By agreement, the parties shall select one
17 arbitrator from among the 5 persons selected by the chairman
18 except that if the parties do not agree on an arbitrator from
19 among the 5 persons, the parties may, by agreement, select an
20 arbitrator of the American Arbitration Association, whose fee
21 shall be paid by the State in accordance with rules promulgated
22 by the Commission. Arbitration under this subsection (p) shall
23 be voluntary.

24 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11; 98-40, eff. 6-28-13; 98-874,
25 eff. 1-1-15.)

1 (820 ILCS 305/25.5)

2 Sec. 25.5. Unlawful acts; penalties.

3 (a) It is unlawful for any person, company, corporation,
4 insurance carrier, healthcare provider, or other entity to:

5 (1) Intentionally present or cause to be presented any
6 false or fraudulent claim for the payment of any workers'
7 compensation benefit.

8 (2) Intentionally make or cause to be made any false or
9 fraudulent material statement or material representation
10 for the purpose of obtaining or denying any workers'
11 compensation benefit.

12 (3) Intentionally make or cause to be made any false or
13 fraudulent statements with regard to entitlement to
14 workers' compensation benefits with the intent to prevent
15 an injured worker from making a legitimate claim for any
16 workers' compensation benefits.

17 (4) Intentionally prepare or provide an invalid,
18 false, or counterfeit certificate of insurance as proof of
19 workers' compensation insurance.

20 (5) Intentionally make or cause to be made any false or
21 fraudulent material statement or material representation
22 for the purpose of obtaining workers' compensation
23 insurance at less than the proper amount ~~rate~~ for that
24 insurance.

25 (6) Intentionally make or cause to be made any false or
26 fraudulent material statement or material representation

1 on an initial or renewal self-insurance application or
2 accompanying financial statement for the purpose of
3 obtaining self-insurance status or reducing the amount of
4 security that may be required to be furnished pursuant to
5 Section 4 of this Act.

6 (7) Intentionally make or cause to be made any false or
7 fraudulent material statement to the Department of
8 Insurance's fraud and insurance non-compliance unit in the
9 course of an investigation of fraud or insurance
10 non-compliance.

11 (8) Intentionally assist, abet, solicit, or conspire
12 with any person, company, or other entity to commit any of
13 the acts in paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7)
14 of this subsection (a).

15 (9) Intentionally present a bill or statement for the
16 payment for medical services that were not provided.

17 For the purposes of paragraphs (2), (3), (5), (6), (7), and
18 (9), the term "statement" includes any writing, notice, proof
19 of injury, bill for services, hospital or doctor records and
20 reports, or X-ray and test results.

21 (b) Sentences for violations of subsection (a) are as
22 follows:

23 (1) A violation in which the value of the property
24 obtained or attempted to be obtained is \$300 or less is a
25 Class A misdemeanor.

26 (2) A violation in which the value of the property

1 obtained or attempted to be obtained is more than \$300 but
2 not more than \$10,000 is a Class 3 felony.

3 (3) A violation in which the value of the property
4 obtained or attempted to be obtained is more than \$10,000
5 but not more than \$100,000 is a Class 2 felony.

6 (4) A violation in which the value of the property
7 obtained or attempted to be obtained is more than \$100,000
8 is a Class 1 felony.

9 (4.5) A violation of paragraph (3), (4), or (7) of
10 subsection (a) in which the offender did not attempt to
11 obtain any workers' compensation benefits or other
12 property of value is a Class A misdemeanor.

13 (4.7) A violation of paragraph (8) of subsection (a)
14 shall be subject to the same penalty as the offense to
15 which the offender assisted, abetted, solicited, or
16 conspired.

17 (5) A person convicted under this Section shall be
18 ordered to pay monetary restitution to the insurance
19 company or self-insured entity or any other person for any
20 financial loss sustained as a result of a violation of this
21 Section, including any court costs and attorney fees. An
22 order of restitution also includes expenses incurred and
23 paid by the State of Illinois or an insurance company or
24 self-insured entity in connection with any medical
25 evaluation or treatment services.

26 For the purposes of this Section, where the exact value of

1 property obtained or attempted to be obtained is either not
2 alleged or is not specifically set by the terms of a policy of
3 insurance, the value of the property shall be the fair market
4 replacement value of the property claimed to be lost, the
5 reasonable costs of reimbursing a vendor or other claimant for
6 services to be rendered, or both. Notwithstanding the
7 foregoing, an insurance company, self-insured entity, or any
8 other person suffering financial loss sustained as a result of
9 violation of this Section may seek restitution, including court
10 costs and attorney's fees in a civil action in a court of
11 competent jurisdiction.

12 (c) The Department of Insurance shall establish a fraud and
13 insurance non-compliance unit responsible for investigating
14 incidences of fraud and insurance non-compliance pursuant to
15 this Section. The size of the staff of the unit shall be
16 subject to appropriation by the General Assembly. It shall be
17 the duty of the fraud and insurance non-compliance unit to
18 determine the identity of insurance carriers, employers,
19 employees, or other persons or entities who have violated the
20 fraud and insurance non-compliance provisions of this Section.
21 The fraud and insurance non-compliance unit shall report
22 violations of the fraud and insurance non-compliance
23 provisions of this Section to the Special Prosecutions Bureau
24 of the Criminal Division of the Office of the Attorney General
25 or to the State's Attorney of the county in which the offense
26 allegedly occurred, either of whom has the authority to

1 prosecute violations under this Section.

2 With respect to the subject of any investigation being
3 conducted, the fraud and insurance non-compliance unit shall
4 have the general power of subpoena of the Department of
5 Insurance, including the authority to issue a subpoena to a
6 medical provider, pursuant to Section 8-802 of the Code of
7 Civil Procedure.

8 (d) Any person may report allegations of insurance
9 non-compliance and fraud pursuant to this Section to the
10 Department of Insurance's fraud and insurance non-compliance
11 unit whose duty it shall be to investigate the report. The unit
12 shall notify the Commission of reports of insurance
13 non-compliance. Any person reporting an allegation of
14 insurance non-compliance or fraud against either an employee or
15 employer under this Section must identify himself. Except as
16 provided in this subsection and in subsection (e), all reports
17 shall remain confidential except to refer an investigation to
18 the Attorney General or State's Attorney for prosecution or if
19 the fraud and insurance non-compliance unit's investigation
20 reveals that the conduct reported may be in violation of other
21 laws or regulations of the State of Illinois, the unit may
22 report such conduct to the appropriate governmental agency
23 charged with administering such laws and regulations. Any
24 person who intentionally makes a false report under this
25 Section to the fraud and insurance non-compliance unit is
26 guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

1 (e) In order for the fraud and insurance non-compliance
2 unit to investigate a report of fraud related to an employee's
3 claim, (i) the employee must have filed with the Commission an
4 Application for Adjustment of Claim and the employee must have
5 either received or attempted to receive benefits under this Act
6 that are related to the reported fraud or (ii) the employee
7 must have made a written demand for the payment of benefits
8 that are related to the reported fraud. There shall be no
9 immunity, under this Act or otherwise, for any person who files
10 a false report or who files a report without good and just
11 cause. Confidentiality of medical information shall be
12 strictly maintained. Investigations that are not referred for
13 prosecution shall be destroyed upon the expiration of the
14 statute of limitations for the acts under investigation and
15 shall not be disclosed except that the person making the report
16 shall be notified that the investigation is being closed. It is
17 unlawful for any employer, insurance carrier, service
18 adjustment company, third party administrator, self-insured,
19 or similar entity to file or threaten to file a report of fraud
20 against an employee because of the exercise by the employee of
21 the rights and remedies granted to the employee by this Act.

22 (e-5) The fraud and insurance non-compliance unit shall
23 procure and implement a system utilizing advanced analytics
24 inclusive of predictive modeling, data mining, social network
25 analysis, and scoring algorithms for the detection and
26 prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse on or before January 1,

1 2012. The fraud and insurance non-compliance unit shall procure
2 this system using a request for proposals process governed by
3 the Illinois Procurement Code and rules adopted under that
4 Code. The fraud and insurance non-compliance unit shall provide
5 a report to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House
6 of Representatives, Minority Leader of the House of
7 Representatives, Minority Leader of the Senate, Governor,
8 Chairman of the Commission, and Director of Insurance on or
9 before July 1, 2012 and annually thereafter detailing its
10 activities and providing recommendations regarding
11 opportunities for additional fraud waste and abuse detection
12 and prevention.

13 (e-7) By July 1, 2018 and thereafter, the fraud and
14 insurance non-compliance unit shall employ at least 10
15 investigators to investigate insurance non-compliance and
16 fraud pursuant to this Section.

17 (f) Any person convicted of fraud related to workers'
18 compensation pursuant to this Section shall be subject to the
19 penalties prescribed in the Criminal Code of 2012 and shall be
20 ineligible to receive or retain any compensation, disability,
21 or medical benefits as defined in this Act if the compensation,
22 disability, or medical benefits were owed or received as a
23 result of fraud for which the recipient of the compensation,
24 disability, or medical benefit was convicted. This subsection
25 applies to accidental injuries or diseases that occur on or
26 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th

1 General Assembly.

2 (g) Civil liability. Any person convicted of fraud who
3 knowingly obtains, attempts to obtain, or causes to be obtained
4 any benefits under this Act by the making of a false claim or
5 who knowingly misrepresents any material fact shall be civilly
6 liable to the payor of benefits or the insurer or the payor's
7 or insurer's subrogee or assignee in an amount equal to 3 times
8 the value of the benefits or insurance coverage wrongfully
9 obtained or twice the value of the benefits or insurance
10 coverage attempted to be obtained, plus reasonable attorney's
11 fees and expenses incurred by the payor or the payor's subrogee
12 or assignee who successfully brings a claim under this
13 subsection. This subsection applies to accidental injuries or
14 diseases that occur on or after the effective date of this
15 amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly.

16 (h) The fraud and insurance non-compliance unit shall
17 submit a written report on an annual basis to the Chairman of
18 the Commission, the Workers' Compensation Advisory Board, the
19 General Assembly, the Governor, and the Attorney General by
20 January 1 and July 1 of each year. This report shall include,
21 at the minimum, the following information:

22 (1) The number of allegations of insurance
23 non-compliance and fraud reported to the fraud and
24 insurance non-compliance unit.

25 (2) The source of the reported allegations
26 (individual, employer, or other).

1 (3) The number of allegations investigated by the fraud
2 and insurance non-compliance unit.

3 (4) The number of criminal referrals made in accordance
4 with this Section and the entity to which the referral was
5 made.

6 (5) All proceedings under this Section.

7 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11; 97-1150, eff. 1-25-13.)

8 (820 ILCS 305/29.2)

9 Sec. 29.2. Insurance and self-insurance oversight.

10 (a) The Department of Insurance shall annually submit to
11 the Governor, the Chairman of the Commission, the President of
12 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
13 Minority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the
14 House of Representatives a written report that details the
15 state of the workers' compensation insurance market in
16 Illinois. The report shall be completed by April 1 of each
17 year, beginning in 2012, or later if necessary data or analyses
18 are only available to the Department at a later date. The
19 report shall be posted on the Department of Insurance's
20 Internet website. Information to be included in the report
21 shall be for the preceding calendar year. The report shall
22 include, at a minimum, the following:

23 (1) Gross premiums collected by workers' compensation
24 carriers in Illinois and the national rank of Illinois
25 based on premium volume.

1 (2) The number of insurance companies actively engaged
2 in Illinois in the workers' compensation insurance market,
3 including both holding companies and subsidiaries or
4 affiliates, and the national rank of Illinois based on
5 number of competing insurers.

6 (3) The total number of insured participants in the
7 Illinois workers' compensation assigned risk insurance
8 pool, and the size of the assigned risk pool as a
9 proportion of the total Illinois workers' compensation
10 insurance market.

11 (4) The advisory organization premium rate for
12 workers' compensation insurance in Illinois for the
13 previous year.

14 (5) The advisory organization prescribed assigned risk
15 pool premium rate.

16 (6) The total amount of indemnity payments made by
17 workers' compensation insurers in Illinois.

18 (7) The total amount of medical payments made by
19 workers' compensation insurers in Illinois, and the
20 national rank of Illinois based on average cost of medical
21 claims per injured worker.

22 (8) The gross profitability of workers' compensation
23 insurers in Illinois, and the national rank of Illinois
24 based on profitability of workers' compensation insurers.

25 (9) The loss ratio of workers' compensation insurers in
26 Illinois and the national rank of Illinois based on the

1 loss ratio of workers' compensation insurers. For purposes
2 of this loss ratio calculation, the denominator shall
3 include all premiums and other fees collected by workers'
4 compensation insurers and the numerator shall include the
5 total amount paid by the insurer for care or compensation
6 to injured workers.

7 (10) The growth of total paid indemnity benefits by
8 temporary total disability, scheduled and non-scheduled
9 permanent partial disability, and total disability.

10 (11) The number of injured workers receiving wage loss
11 differential awards and the average wage loss differential
12 award payout.

13 (12) Illinois' rank, relative to other states, for:

14 (i) the maximum and minimum temporary total
15 disability benefit level;

16 (ii) the maximum and minimum scheduled and
17 non-scheduled permanent partial disability benefit
18 level;

19 (iii) the maximum and minimum total disability
20 benefit level; and

21 (iv) the maximum and minimum death benefit level.

22 (13) The aggregate growth of medical benefit payout by
23 non-hospital providers and hospitals.

24 (14) The aggregate growth of medical utilization for
25 the top 10 most common injuries to specific body parts by
26 non-hospital providers and hospitals.

1 (15) The percentage of injured workers filing claims at
2 the Commission that are represented by an attorney.

3 (16) The total amount paid by injured workers for
4 attorney representation.

5 (a-5) The Commission shall annually submit to the Governor
6 and the General Assembly a written report that details the
7 state of self-insurance for workers' compensation in Illinois.
8 The report shall be based on the types of information collected
9 by the Commission or the Department of Insurance from
10 self-insurers, as of the effective date of this amendatory Act
11 of the 100th General Assembly. The report shall be completed by
12 April 1 of each year, beginning in 2019. The report shall be
13 posted on the Commission's Internet website. Information to be
14 included in the report shall be for the preceding calendar
15 year. The report shall include, at a minimum, the following in
16 the aggregate:

17 (1) The number of employers that self-insure for
18 workers' compensation;

19 (2) The total number of employees covered by
20 self-insurance;

21 (3) The total amount of indemnity payments made by
22 self-insureds;

23 (4) The total number of claims on which indemnity
24 payments were made by self-insureds;

25 (5) The total amount of medical payments made by
26 self-insureds;

1 (6) The total number of claims on which medical
2 payments were made by self-insureds;

3 (7) The total number of claims on which both indemnity
4 and medical payments were made by self-insureds;

5 (8) The median of the injured workers' weekly wage of
6 self-insureds' employees;

7 (9) The growth of total paid indemnity benefits by
8 temporary total disability, scheduled and non-scheduled
9 permanent partial disability, and total disability;

10 (10) Illinois' rank, relative to other states, for:

11 (i) the maximum and minimum temporary total
12 disability benefit levels;

13 (ii) the maximum and minimum scheduled and
14 non-scheduled permanent partial disability benefit
15 levels;

16 (iii) the maximum and minimum total disability
17 benefit levels; and

18 (iv) the maximum and minimum death benefit levels;
19 and

20 (11) The aggregate growth of medical benefit payouts by
21 non-hospital providers and hospitals.

22 (b) The Director of Insurance shall promulgate rules
23 requiring each insurer licensed to write workers' compensation
24 coverage in the State to record and report the following
25 information on an aggregate basis to the Department of
26 Insurance before March 1 of each year, relating to claims in

1 the State opened within the prior calendar year:

2 (1) The number of claims opened.

3 (2) The number of reported medical only claims.

4 (3) The number of contested claims.

5 (4) The number of claims for which the employee has
6 attorney representation.

7 (5) The number of claims with lost time and the number
8 of claims for which temporary total disability was paid.

9 (6) The number of claim adjusters employed to adjust
10 workers' compensation claims.

11 (7) The number of claims for which temporary total
12 disability was not paid within 14 days from the first full
13 day off, regardless of reason.

14 (8) The number of medical bills paid 60 days or later
15 from date of service and the average days paid on those
16 paid after 60 days for the previous calendar year.

17 (9) The number of claims in which in-house defense
18 counsel participated, and the total amount spent on
19 in-house legal services.

20 (10) The number of claims in which outside defense
21 counsel participated, and the total amount paid to outside
22 defense counsel.

23 (11) The total amount billed to employers for bill
24 review.

25 (12) The total amount billed to employers for fee
26 schedule savings.

1 (13) The total amount charged to employers for any and
2 all managed care fees.

3 (14) The number of claims involving in-house medical
4 nurse case management, and the total amount spent on
5 in-house medical nurse case management.

6 (15) The number of claims involving outside medical
7 nurse case management, and the total amount paid for
8 outside medical nurse case management.

9 (16) The total amount paid for Independent Medical
10 exams.

11 (17) The total amount spent on in-house Utilization
12 Review for the previous calendar year.

13 (18) The total amount paid for outside Utilization
14 Review for the previous calendar year.

15 The Department shall make the submitted information
16 publicly available on the Department's Internet website or such
17 other media as appropriate in a form useful for consumers.

18 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11.)

19 (820 ILCS 305/29.3 new)

20 Sec. 29.3. Workers' Compensation Premium Rates Task Force.

21 (a) There is created the Workers' Compensation Premium
22 Rates Task Force consisting of 12 members appointed as follows:
23 2 legislative members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives; 2 legislative members appointed by the
25 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; 2 legislative

1 members appointed by the President of the Senate; 2 legislative
2 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and one
3 member appointed by the Governor from each of the following
4 organizations: (i) a statewide association representing
5 retailers; (ii) a statewide association representing
6 manufacturers; (iii) a statewide association representing
7 labor interests; and (iv) a statewide association representing
8 injured workers. The members of the Task Force shall be
9 appointed by April 1, 2018. Two co-chairpersons, representing
10 different political parties, shall be selected by the members
11 of the Task Force. Members of the Task Force shall receive no
12 compensation for their service on the Task Force.

13 (b) The Task Force shall study the National Council on
14 Compensation Insurance's recommendations for workers'
15 compensation premium rates, the extent to which Illinois
16 employers' actual premiums reflect these recommended rates.
17 The Task Force shall also study the feasibility of establishing
18 a competitive nonprofit, independent public corporation to
19 provide workers' compensation insurance and the impact that the
20 corporation would have on insurance rates and premiums. The
21 Department of Insurance shall provide administrative support
22 to the Task Force.

23 (c) The Task Force shall report its findings and
24 recommendations to the General Assembly no later than December
25 31, 2018.

26 (d) This Section is repealed December 31, 2019.

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.

1		INDEX
2		Statutes amended in order of appearance
3	215 ILCS 5/456	from Ch. 73, par. 1065.3
4	215 ILCS 5/457	from Ch. 73, par. 1065.4
5	215 ILCS 5/458	from Ch. 73, par. 1065.5
6	215 ILCS 5/462a new	
7	215 ILCS 5/460 rep.	
8	820 ILCS 305/1	from Ch. 48, par. 138.1
9	820 ILCS 305/4e new	
10	820 ILCS 305/8	from Ch. 48, par. 138.8
11	820 ILCS 305/8.1 new	
12	820 ILCS 305/8.1b	
13	820 ILCS 305/8.2	
14	820 ILCS 305/8.2a	
15	820 ILCS 305/14	from Ch. 48, par. 138.14
16	820 ILCS 305/19	from Ch. 48, par. 138.19
17	820 ILCS 305/25.5	
18	820 ILCS 305/29.2	
19	820 ILCS 305/29.3 new	