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**Workers' Compensation  
Budget Advisory Committee**

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November 28, 2006

The Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor  
State of Maryland  
State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Report of Budget Advisory Committee for the  
Workers' Compensation Commission for Fiscal Year 2008 Budget

Dear Governor Ehrlich:

Pursuant to the requirements of Md. Code Ann., Lab. & Empl. § 9-318(d), this is the report of the Advisory Committee on the budget of the Workers' Compensation Commission for Fiscal Year 2008.

The Workers' Compensation Commission is a specially funded agency. Its operation costs the general fund zero dollars. No fees, charges or other costs are imposed on Marylanders by the State to support the Commission. The Commission is funded by assessments on insurers and self-insured employers.

The Advisory Committee on the budget of the Commission consists of representatives of insurers, self-insured employers, injured workers, labor, medical and vocational rehabilitation interests.

On October 11, 2006, the Committee met with the Honorable R. Karl Aumann, Chairman of the Commission, and key staff relevant to the budget. The Chairman and staff presented a comprehensive overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2008 budget. There

were no significant concerns raised by the Chairman, staff or members of the Committee. The Committee met in closed session immediately following the presentation by the Commission and fully discussed the submitted proposed budget. By unanimous vote of the members present, both in person and by telephone, the Committee approved the budget as presented.

On October 26, 2006, the Advisory Committee informed chairman Aumann that the Committee had no recommendations to the Commission as to any changes in any budget area of the Commission.

In support of its decision, the Committee makes the following comments: Most of the special projects undertaken by the Commission in the past several years have been completed, and personnel issues are on track. The regional hearing sites established around the State are open and operating. In addition, Chairman Aumann is viewed by Advisory Committee members as an excellent manager with respect to budget issues as they relate to the overall mission of the Commission to provide an efficient and effective forum for the resolution of individual workers' compensation claims.

The Fiscal Year 2008 budget presented is, in our opinion, appropriate and should be approved as submitted.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark T. Hackman

Acting Chair

Budget Advisory Committee

MTH/jld

Cc: All Members of Budget Advisory Committee  
The Honorable R. Karl Aumann, Chairman  
Department of Legislative Services