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Workers' Compensation Budget Advisory Committee

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November 14, 2012

The Honorable Martin O'Malley, 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 2014 Budget

Dear Governor O'Malley:

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 2014.

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 10, 2012, 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 2014 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.

The Advisory Committee does not have any recommendations to the Commission as to any changes in any budget area of the Commission, but made some recommendations regarding several long-term issues.

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 2014 budget presented is, in our opinion, appropriate and should be approved as submitted.

Respectfully submitted

Michael G. Comeau, Esq.

Chair

Budget Advisory Committee

MTH/ild

Cc: All Members of Budget Advisory Committee

The Honorable R. Karl Aumann, Chairman

Department of Legislative Services