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*Workers' Compensation
Budget Advisory Committee*

10 East Baltimore Street, 7th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202-1641 Phone (410) 864-5161

November 26, 2014

~~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 2016 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 2016.

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 16, 2014, 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 2016 budget. The Chairman included in his comments the welcome news of the approval of an over-the-target budget request.

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The Committee is pleased that the FY 2015 Over-the-Target Request was approved in the amount of \$400,000 to fully insure that the Commission will be able to receive an excellent scope of work product RFP response that will fully address the Commission's urgent need to update the critical information technology systems that support the agency's functions. We understand that the Supplemental Appropriation was received in September and the RFP is being developed.

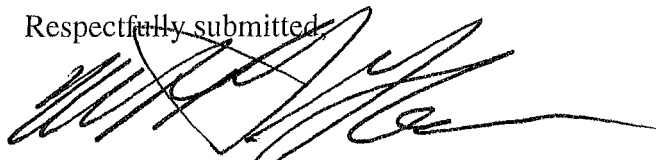
The Committee met in closed session immediately following the presentation by the Commission and fully discussed the submitted proposed budget. By unanimous vote of the members present the Committee approved the budget.

In addition, Chairman Aumann has been and continues to be 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 2016 budget presented is, in our opinion, appropriate and should be approved as submitted.

As your time in office draws to a close, the members of the Committee thank you for opportunity to serve the citizens of Maryland as members of the Budget Advisory Committee.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael G. Comeau, Esq.
Chair
Budget Advisory Committee

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