

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 828

LCO No. 6678

Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by: (LAB)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working group to study the workers' compensation program. Such study shall include an examination of ways to (1) streamline such program, including, but not limited to, updating the workers' compensation electronic filing system, including the reporting triggers and mechanisms, (2) reduce prior authorization delays, and (3) reduce fraudulent claims.

- 8 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:
- 9 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 10 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

11 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of12 Representatives;

13 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

14 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of15 Representatives;

16 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

17 (7) The chairperson of the Workers' Compensation Commission, or18 the commissioner's designee.

(c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision
(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the working group
from among the members of the working group. Such chairpersons shall
schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not
later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and
public employees shall serve as administrative staff of the working
group.

(g) Not later than January 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2026, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

Section 1 <i>from p</i>	vassage	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To provide recommendations to improve the workers' compensation program in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. CICARELLA, 34th Dist.; SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist. REP. CANDELORA V., 86th Dist.; REP. QUINN, 82nd Dist. REP. JOHNSON, 49th Dist.

<u>S.B. 828</u>