
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5605

AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.

SUMMARY

This bill removes the current requirement that the conversion to the Medicare resource-based relative value scale (RBRVS) as the basis for practitioner fees for medical services under the Workers' Compensation Act be revenue-neutral.

Current law generally requires the Workers' Compensation Commission's chairperson to annually (1) set a fee schedule for workers' compensation medical providers and (2) update relative values based on the RBRVS.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

By April 1, 2008, the Workers' Compensation Commission chairperson was required to convert to a medical practitioners' fee schedule using RBRVS. This scale ranks medical services according to the relative costs of resources needed to produce the services. Medicare uses three components to calculate resource costs (and, therefore, the relative value) of each medical service: (1) physician (or other provider) work, (2) practice expense, and (3) liability insurance. The total relative value of a particular medical service is multiplied by a conversion factor to determine the Medicare fee. The RBRVS method is familiar to, and accepted by, physician practices because Medicare is the nation's largest medical services payer.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/20/2025)