APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

Date 3-29-83

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1983

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 313

(By Mr & Snow, In President)

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ENROLLED

Senate Bill No. 313

(By Mr. McGraw, Mr. President)

[Passed March 12, 1983; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section eighteen, article one, chapter twenty-three of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to workers' compensation advisory board.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section eighteen, article one, chapter twenty-three of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirtyone, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

§23-1-18. Workers' compensation advisory board created; membership; appointment; terms; meetings; duties; annual reports.

1 There is hereby created an advisory board to the com-2 missioner of the workers' compensation fund to be 3 known as "the workers' compensation advisory board." The workers' compensation advisory board consists of 4 5 ten members. The workers' compensation commissioner is 6 an ex officio member of the board whose term as such 7 member continues for that period in which the commis-8 sioner holds that office. The other nine members of the 9 board shall be appointed by the governor with three mem-10 bors representing employees subject to this chapter, three 11 members representing employers subject to this chapter 12 and three members representing providers of medical 13 services to such employees for which such providers are 14 compensated under the provisions of this chapter. The

term of each member except the workers' compensa-15 16 tion commissioner shall be three years: Provided, That of 17 the persons originally appointed, three members, includ-18 ing one member of each of the three representative 19 groups, shall be designated to serve for terms of one 20 year each, three members, including one member of each 21 of the three representative groups, shall be designated to 22 serve for terms of two years each and three members, 23 including one member of each of the three representative 24 groups, shall be designated to serve for a term of three 25 years each. The terms of all the initially appointed mem-26 bers of the board shall begin on the first day of July, 27 one thousand nine hundred eighty-three. Upon the ex-28 piration of each of such initial appointments the term of 29 each new appointee shall be three years, but any person 30 appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expira-31 tion of the term for which his predecessor was appointed 32 shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term. 33 Each member shall serve until the appointment and 34 qualification of his successor. Members shall be eligible for 35 reappointment.

36 The workers' compensation commissioner shall serve 37 as chairman of the board. The other nine members shall select one of their number to serve as vice chairman of 38 39 the board and to preside in the absence of the commis-**40** sioner. Meetings may be held at any time at the call of 41 the commissioner. The commissioner shall call a meeting 42 whenever a majority of the other members of the board 43 requests the commissioner to do so. At least one meeting 44 shall be held annually.

The purpose of the board and the duty of its members are to advise the workers' compensation commissioner on matters pertinent to the administration of the workers' compensation fund. The board shall consider any matter brought before it by the commissioner or any appointed member and may consider any matter referred to it by a person not a member of the board. At the conclusion of its consideration of any proposal the board shall make its recommendation to the commissioner. The commissioner is not bound by any recommendation of the 55 board. The board also may formulate general or long56 range plans for improvements in the administration of
57 the fund for the consideration of the commissioner.

By the second Wednesday of January of each year the 58 board shall prepare and deliver to the workers' com-59 pensation commissioner and to the Legislature a report 60 of all the matters it considered, recommendations it made 61 and plans it formulated during the preceding calendar 62 63 year. The report shall include any recommendations it may have for changes in the law which would be neces-64 65 sary to implement any of its administrative recommenda-66 tions.

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Enr. S. B. No. 313]

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Commitțee

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Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

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