



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Raised Bill No. 1008**

LCO No. 2974

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

**AN ACT REQUIRING DIRECT PAYMENT OF PRESCRIPTION  
MEDICATION FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMANTS.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 31-279 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (c) [On or after January 1, 1992, any] (1) Any employer or any  
4 insurer acting on behalf of an employer, may establish a plan, subject  
5 to the approval of the chairman of the Workers' Compensation  
6 Commission under subsection (d) of this section, for the provision of  
7 medical care [which] that the employer provides for treatment of any  
8 injury or illness under this chapter. Each plan shall contain such  
9 information as the chairman shall require, including, but not limited  
10 to:

11 [(1)] (A) A listing of all persons who will provide services under the  
12 plan, along with appropriate evidence that each person listed has met  
13 any licensing, certification or registration requirement necessary for  
14 the person to legally provide the service in this state; [(2) a]

15     (B) A listing of all pharmacies that will provide services under the  
16 plan, to which the employer or any insurer acting on behalf of the  
17 employer shall make direct payments for any prescription drug  
18 prescribed by a physician participating in the plan;

19     (C) A designation of the times, places and manners in which the  
20 services will be provided; [(3) a]

21     (D) A description of how the quality and quantity of medical care  
22 will be managed; and [(4) such]

23     (E) Such other provisions as the employer and the employees may  
24 agree to, subject to the approval of the chairman.

25     (2) The election by an employee covered by a plan established under  
26 this subsection to obtain medical care and treatment from a provider of  
27 medical services who is not listed in the plan shall suspend [his] the  
28 employee's right to compensation, subject to the order of the  
29 commissioner.

30     Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 31-294d of the general statutes is  
31 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

32     (a) (1) The employer, as soon as [he] the employer has knowledge of  
33 an injury, shall provide a competent physician or surgeon to attend the  
34 injured employee and, in addition, shall furnish any medical and  
35 surgical aid or hospital and nursing service, including medical  
36 rehabilitation services and prescription drugs, as the physician or  
37 surgeon deems reasonable or necessary. The employer or any insurer  
38 acting on behalf of the employer shall be responsible for paying the  
39 cost of such prescription drugs directly to the provider.

40     (2) If the injured employee is a local or state police officer, state  
41 marshal, judicial marshal, correction officer, emergency medical  
42 technician, paramedic, ambulance driver, firefighter, or active member  
43 of a volunteer fire company or fire department engaged in volunteer  
44 duties, who has been exposed in the line of duty to blood or bodily

45 fluids [which] that may carry blood-borne disease, the medical and  
46 surgical aid or hospital and nursing service provided by [his] the  
47 employer shall include any relevant diagnostic and prophylactic  
48 procedure for and treatment of any blood-borne disease.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To require pharmaceutical charges to be paid directly to the provider by the employer or its insurer instead of requiring the employee to pay for such charges and then seek reimbursement.

*[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.]*