

House Bill No. 1348

AN ACT concerning

Workers' Compensation Commission - Location of Hearing

FOR the purpose of altering the location where the Workers' Compensation Commission is required to hold a hearing on a claim; and altering the location of a hearing on a claim filed by an employee of a government agency.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Labor and Employment

Section 9-724

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Labor and Employment

9-724.

(a) In this section, "governmental agency" includes:

- (1) a county;
- (2) a county board of education;
- (3) a statutory bicounty agency; and
- (4) an incorporated municipality.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a covered employee may elect to have a hearing on a claim of the covered employee held [in] AT:

(1) [the county where the accidental personal injury, compensable hernia, or last injurious exposure to the hazards of the occupational disease allegedly occurred] A REGIONAL HEARING LOCATION DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION TO BE CONVENIENT TO ALL PARTIES;

(2) A REGIONAL HEARING LOCATION THAT COVERS the county where the covered employee resided when the accidental personal injury, or compensable hernia, or last injurious exposure to the hazards of the occupational disease allegedly occurred; or

(3) Baltimore City.

(c) (1) Unless the covered employee objects, if the employer is a governmental agency, the Commission shall conduct a hearing in the county in which the governmental agency is located, provided that hearings of the Commission are scheduled in that county.