

ment Security. The Department of Employment Security shall report the average weekly wage of the State of Maryland as of July 1, to the Workmen's Compensation Commission no later than December 15 of each year. The average weekly wage used for 1968 shall be that average weekly wage established by the Department of Employment Security as of July 1, 1967. In no case shall the employee receive less than a minimum of twenty-five dollars per week *unless the employee's established weekly wages are less than twenty-five dollars per week* at the time of the injury, in which event he shall receive compensation equal to his weekly wages [but in no case to continue more than four years in the aggregate]. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed or applied to affect or change the law as to any such injury or strain which occurred prior to the effective date of this subsection. This section shall only apply to injuries occurring on or after July 1, 1968.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall not apply to accidental injuries or occupational diseases occurring prior to July 1, 1971.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1971.

Approved May 6, 1971.

CHAPTER 403
(House Bill 543)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 36(8) (a) and (b) of Article 101 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "Workmen's Compensation," subtitle "Claims and Compensation; Benefits," to change the maximum benefits payable to dependents in cases where injury causes death within a certain period of time.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Sections 36(8) (a) and (b) of Article 101 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "Workmen's Compensation," subtitle "Claims and Compensation; Benefits," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

36.

(8) (a) In case the injury causes death within the period of five years the benefits shall be in the amounts and to the persons following: If there are wholly dependent persons at the time of death, the payment shall be sixty-six and two-thirds per centum of the average weekly wages, not to exceed, however, a maximum of [seventy dollars (\$70.00) per week] *sixty-six and two-thirds per centum of the average weekly wage of the State of Maryland as determined by the Department of Employment Security, as provided in Section 36(2) of this Article* and not less than a minimum of twenty-five