

shall use to measure permanent impairments when preparing medical evaluations for reports to the Commission; requiring the regulations to include certain medically recognized criteria; requiring physicians to use certain medical guides when measuring permanent impairment in preparing medical evaluations for reports to the Commission on the medical condition of claimants; providing for the submission of certain medical information under certain circumstances; providing that the allowable fees and other charges for medical treatment and services established by the Workmen's Compensation Commission shall be reviewed by the Workmen's Compensation Commission at least once every two years for completeness and reasonableness and that the guidelines be revised accordingly; requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations regarding the exercise of certain powers by the chairman of the Commission; authorizing the chairman to refer to an appropriate medical peer-panel disciplinary commission or board for review and findings cases of the providing of excessive treatment or, services, medicine, or appliances by physicians or health care providers and providing penalties for providing excessive treatment or, services, medicine, or appliances; providing a cost of living adjustment, not to exceed a certain percentage in any year, in cases of permanent total disability; amending the rate of payment of temporary total disability benefits in reopened cases to reflect the average weekly wage of the State of Maryland during the year of reopening under certain circumstances; amending the rates of compensation for permanent partial disability and providing the Commission with authority to increase a disability under certain circumstances; excluding certain public safety employees from certain provisions of this Act; providing that certain penalties shall be assessed against an insurer or self-insurer upon a finding by the Workmen's Compensation Commission that any compensation payment awarded has not been paid within certain times without good cause; providing that within a certain time after a claim for compensation for injuries has been filed with the Workmen's Compensation Commission the employer or insurer shall commence payment of temporary total disability benefits or shall file issues contesting the compensability of the claim; providing--that certain compensation may not be recouped repealing a certain unconstitutional provision of law; providing that the payment of temporary total disability benefits before an award by the Workmen's Compensation Commission may not be considered a waiver of the employer's or insurer's rights to contest the claim at--a--later--date; providing certain penalties for failing to pay temporary total disability benefits or to file issues to a claim for temporary total disability benefits without good cause; requiring the Commission to consider certain factors in assessing a penalty or fine; providing that certain amendments made by this Act shall take effect on a certain date; providing that