

[(e)] (F) If a covered employee is awarded compensation for less than 75 weeks for a disability listed in § 9-627(b) of this subtitle, the employer or its insurer shall pay the covered employee weekly compensation at the rate set for an award of compensation for a period greater than or equal to 75 weeks but less than 250 weeks under § 9-629 of this subtitle.

[(f)] (G) If a public safety employee is awarded compensation for less than 75 weeks, the employer or its insurer shall pay the public safety employee compensation at the rate set for an award of compensation for a period greater than or equal to 75 weeks but less than 250 weeks under § 9-629 of this subtitle.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

Approved May 13, 1999.

CHAPTER 458

(House Bill 801)

AN ACT concerning

Health Care Malpractice Claims - Neutral Case Evaluation

FOR the purpose of ~~requiring~~ authorizing certain courts to refer certain health care malpractice claims to the Health Claims Arbitration Office for the purpose of neutral case evaluation if the parties mutually agree under certain circumstances; establishing certain neutral case evaluation procedures; providing that, during the neutral case evaluation period, certain courts shall continue to have jurisdiction on certain matters; providing for the compensation of evaluators; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the neutral case evaluation of certain health care malpractice claims.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 3-2A-06A and 3-2A-06B

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1998 Replacement Volume)

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

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

3-2A-06A.

(a) At any time before the hearing of a claim with the Health Claims Arbitration Office, the parties may agree mutually to waive arbitration of the claim, and the provisions of this [subsection] SECTION then shall govern all further proceedings on the claim.