This bill authorizes the Workers' Compensation Commission to order an offset or credit against an award for permanent partial disability benefits, for temporary total disability benefits previously paid, or vocational rehabilitation benefits previously provided, to a covered employee.

Senate Bill 116, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 11, 2000, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 183.

Sincerely, Parris N. Glendening Governor

House Bill No. 183

AN ACT concerning

Workers' Compensation Commission - Offsets and Credits for Overpayment of Certain Benefits

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Workers' Compensation Commission to order an offset or credit against an award for permanent partial disability benefits for vocational rehabilitation benefits previously provided to a covered employee on or after a certain date or for temporary total disability benefits previously paid to a covered employee on or after a certain date.

BY adding to

Article – Labor and Employment Section 9–610.1 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

9-610.1.

THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION MAY ORDER AN OFFSET OR CREDIT AGAINST AN AWARD FOR PERMANENT PARTIAL DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR:

- (1) ANY VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED TO A COVERED EMPLOYEE ON OR AFTER JUNE 1, 1999; OR
- (2) ANY TEMPORARY TOTAL DISABILITY BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY PAID TO A COVERED EMPLOYEE ON OR AFTER JUNE 1, 1999.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2000.