

the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1998.

May 21, 1998

The Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
Speaker of the House
State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 796.

This bill requires a workers' compensation insurer (or self-insurer) to notify a covered employee and the employee's treating physician prior to the termination of the employee's workers' compensation medical benefits. Attached to the termination notice, the insurer must provide a copy of any medical record or report relied upon in making the termination. Exceptions to the medical benefit notice requirement are provided if: (1) the treatment was not authorized by the insurer or the self-insurer; or (2) the treating physician or health care provider chosen by the covered employee has advised the covered employee that the covered employee has reached maximum medical improvement from the disability.

Senate Bill 542, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 12, 1998, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 796.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

House Bill No. 796

AN ACT concerning

Workers' Compensation - Notice on Termination of Medical Benefits and Temporary Total Benefits

FOR the purpose of requiring the insurer to notify a covered employee and the employee's treating physician or other health care provider when the employee's workers' compensation medical benefits terminate; ~~specifying an exception;~~ providing for certain exceptions; expanding the requirement of notifying a covered employee when temporary total disability benefits terminate to apply to self-insurers; and generally relating to workers' compensation.