

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

S

2

SENATE BILL 483*

Finance Committee Substitute Adopted 6/26/97

Short Title: Phys. Svces. Fee/AB.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 25, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT PAID TO PHYSICIANS TO READ X-RAY FILMS FOR THE DUSTY TRADES PROGRAM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 97-72 reads as rewritten:

"§ 97-72. Appointment of advisory medical committee; terms of office; duties and functions; salaries and expenses.

(a) There shall be an advisory medical committee consisting of three members, who shall be licensed physicians in good professional standing and peculiarly qualified in the diagnosis or treatment of occupational diseases. They shall be appointed by the Industrial Commission with the approval of the Governor, and one of them shall be designated as chairman of the committee by the Industrial Commission. The members of committee shall be appointed to serve terms as follows: one for a term of two years, one for a term of four years, and one for a term of six years. Upon the expiration of each term as above mentioned the Industrial Commission shall appoint a successor for a term of six years; ~~years. except that the terms of the members first appointed shall expire June 30, 1936.~~ The function of the committee shall be to conduct examinations and make reports as required by G.S. 97-61.1 through 97-61.6 and 97-68 through 97-71, and to assist in any postmortem examinations provided for in G.S. 97-67 when so directed by the Industrial Commission. Members of the committee shall devote to the duties of the office so much

1 of their time as may be required in the conducting of examinations with reasonable
2 promptness, and they shall attend hearings as scheduled by the Industrial Commission
3 when their attendance is desired for the purpose of examining and cross-examining them
4 respecting any report or reports made by them.

5 (b) The members of the advisory medical committee shall be paid one hundred
6 dollars (\$100.00) per month plus not more than ~~ten dollars (\$10.00)~~ forty dollars (\$40.00)
7 per film examined. The fee per film shall be established by the Secretary of
8 Environment, Health, and Natural ~~Resources~~ Resources, as guided by the current
9 Medicaid/Medicare reimbursement schedules for North Carolina.

10 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, the Industrial
11 Commission, in its discretion, may designate a qualified physician who is not a member
12 of the advisory medical committee to perform an examination of an employee who has
13 filed a claim for benefits for asbestosis or silicosis. This physician shall file his reports in
14 the same manner a member of the advisory medical committee files reports; and these
15 reports shall be deemed reports of the advisory medical committee."

16 Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.