

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 20, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 1, Level 2, 30 West Spring Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, to consider the following:

Amendment of the following rule for the purposes as shown below:

4123-6-37.1 Inpatient hospital fee schedule.

BWC annually review the hospital inpatient fee schedule, with specific Agency and workers' compensation business goals as the guide in developing recommendations. Under Ohio statutes and rules, BWC is charged with implementing a discounted fee schedule which will allow for services to be provided to Ohio's injured workers. The recommendations reflect the following objectives:

- a. keeping current with the base Medicare methodology which supports the inpatient fee schedule and provides a current and consistent billing approach for Ohio hospitals;
- b. promote quality in provision of care;
- c. maintain stability in rates for 2013, while continuing access to high-quality medical care for Ohio injured workers;
- d. create a closer consistency between all hospital facilities with respect to payments received; and
- e. effectively allow BWC to better align changes in payment to changes in facilities' cost of providing services.

The full and complete text of the proposed rules is available at the Register of Ohio (<http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us>) and is on file in the office of the Secretary of State (180 East Broad Street, 15th Floor, Columbus, Ohio), the Legislative Service Commission (77 South High Street, 9th Floor, Columbus, Ohio), the office of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (77 South High Street, Concourse Level, Columbus, Ohio), the Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Legal Operations (30 West Spring Street, 26th Floor, Columbus, Ohio), the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (30 West Spring Street, Columbus, Ohio, 1st Floor, Hearing Rooms), and all service offices of the Bureau.

All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard. Any interested party unable to attend the public hearing may submit written comments to the undersigned prior to the public hearing at notification@bwc.state.oh.us.

THE OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION

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