

By the Committee on Banking and Insurance; and Senator Hays

597-03580-14

20141580c1

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to the Workers' Compensation Cost Task  
3 Force; amending s. 440.13, F.S.; creating the Workers'  
4 Compensation Cost Task Force; providing for  
5 membership; providing duties; requiring the task force  
6 to submit a report to the Governor, the President of  
7 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
8 Representatives by a specified date; providing an  
9 expiration date; providing an effective date.

10  
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12  
13 Section 1. Subsection (17) is added to section 440.13,  
14 Florida Statutes, to read:

15 440.13 Medical services and supplies; penalty for  
16 violations; limitations.—

17 (17) WORKERS' COMPENSATION COST TASK FORCE.—

18 (a) The Workers' Compensation Cost Task Force is created.

19 The Department of Financial Services shall provide  
20 administrative and staff support services relating to the  
21 functions of the task force. The task force shall organize by  
22 July 1, 2014. The task force shall be composed of the following  
23 18 members:

24 1. The Chief Financial Officer, or his or her designee, who  
25 shall serve as chair of the task force.

26 2. Three members of the task force who shall be the  
27 president or chief executive officer, or his or her designee, of  
28 the Florida Chamber of Commerce, Associated Industries of  
29 Florida, and the Florida Hospital Association.

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30       3. The Secretary of the Department of Health, or his or her  
31 designee.

32       4. One member of the three-member panel, created under  
33 subsection (12).

34       5. One member that represents a critical access hospital,  
35 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

36       6. One member who represents a rural hospital, appointed by  
37 the President of the Senate.

38       7. Five members appointed by the President of the Senate  
39 and five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
40 Representatives which must each include:

41       a. A member of the Legislature;

42       b. An owner or representative of a hospital system that has  
43 over 2,000 beds and provides services to a significant number of  
44 workers' compensation claims;

45       c. An owner or representative of a business that employs  
46 more than 500 employees;

47       d. An owner or representative of a business that employs  
48 less than 25 employees; and

49       e. A representative from an insurance company that provides  
50 workers' compensation insurance.

51       (b) Members of the task force shall serve without  
52 compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and  
53 travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061.

54       (c) The purpose of the task force is to analyze workers'  
55 compensation costs. The task force shall review and analyze the  
56 recommendations of the Three-Member Panel 2013 Biennial Report  
57 in the context of reducing workers' compensation costs. The task  
58 force shall develop a report that includes its findings and

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59 recommendations for legislative action regarding a new payment  
60 methodology for hospital inpatient and outpatient reimbursements  
61 in workers' compensation cases which will reward efficiency,  
62 quality, and outcomes. The task force must address other factors  
63 related to workers' compensation costs, including, but not  
64 limited to, the volume of inpatient and outpatient services, the  
65 number of accidents and workers compensation claims, fraud, the  
66 cost per claim and treatment, and tort costs related to workers  
67 compensation care. The task force shall submit the report to the  
68 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
69 House of Representatives by January 15, 2015.

70 (d) This subsection shall be repealed June 30, 2015.

71 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.