THREE-MEMBER PANEL PUBLIC MEETING RELATING TO

To the adoption of recommendations on methods to improve the workers’ compensation health care delivery system.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

3:00 P.M. eastern time

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1. Call to order

2. Opening remarks by the Chairman and Panel Members

3. Legislative Ratification of the Reimbursement Manuals

* Division of Workers’ Compensation Presentation

 Pages 17-19 of the 2019 Biennial Report describe the issues surrounding the legislative ratification of the reimbursement manuals. These issues are still relevant and on-going. The recommendation is the same as it was in 2019.

 Recommendation: To promote the self-execution of the workers’ compensation system, the Legislature should either exempt the reimbursement manuals from legislative ratification or establish a maximum cost impact percentage threshold for each reimbursement manual for which ratification is not required.

* Public Comments

 4. Provider Reimbursement Amounts

* Division of Workers’ Compensation Presentation

Paragraph 440.13(12)(a), F.S., states in part, “An individual physician, hospital, ambulatory surgical center, pain program, or work-hardening program shall be reimbursed either the agreed-upon contract price or the maximum reimbursement allowance in the appropriate schedule.” The current statutory language does not contemplate situations where a provider bills an amount for a service or treatment, which is less than the maximum reimbursement allowance.

Recommendation: Amend paragraph 440.13(12)(a), F.S., to allow a payor to pay the agreed-contract price, or either the maximum reimbursement allowance in the appropriate schedule or the provider’s billed charge, whichever is less. This amendment is a single, but important step in promoting workers’ compensation cost containment for employers.

* Public Comments

 5. Concluding remarks by the Chairman and Panel Members

 6*.* Adjournment