

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 6, 2005, at 1:30 p.m., in Room G, 3rd Floor, 30 West Spring Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, to consider the following:

Amendment of the following Bureau rules for the purpose as shown below:

- 4123-6-22 Stakeholders health care quality assurance advisory committee.
- 4123-6-40 Payment of claimant travel expenses.
- 4123-18-16 Self-insuring employer's obligation to provide vocational rehabilitation services.

Rescissions of the following Bureau rules for the purpose as shown below:

- 4123-6-21 Payment for medication.
- 4123-7-25 Payment for nursing services.
- 4123-7-26 Payment to nursing homes.

Adoption of the following new Bureau rules for the purpose shown below:

- 4123-6-21 Payment for outpatient medication.
- 4123-7-25 Payment for home health nursing services.
- 4123-7-25.1 Payment for nursing and caregiver services provided by persons other than home health agency employees.
- 4123-7-26 Payment to nursing home and residential care/assisted living services.

These rule changes update the Chapter 4123-6 and Chapter 4123-7 of the Ohio Administrative Code to reflect statutory and policy changes as well as to show correspondence between Chapter 4123-6 and Chapter 4123-7, so that the medical services provided to state-funded and self-insuring employer injured workers are equivalent. Rule 423-18-16 is amended to ensure that employees of self-insuring employers have a free choice of rehabilitation 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.

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