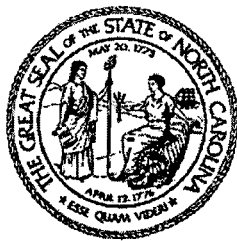


Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Pamela T. Young, Chair



Bernadine S. Ballance, Commissioner
Laura K. Mavretic, Commissioner
Danny L. McDonald, Commissioner
Staci Meyer, Commissioner
Christopher Scott, Commissioner
Dianne C. Sellers, Commissioner

North Carolina Industrial Commission

Order Adopting Revised Inpatient Hospital Billing Band, Outpatient Reimbursement Rate, and Ambulatory Surgical Center Reimbursement Rate for Workers' Compensation Cases

The North Carolina Industrial Commission published a "Public Notice of Rule-Making by the North Carolina Industrial Commission Concerning Amendment of Hospital Fee Schedule for Workers' Compensation Cases" in the *North Carolina Public Register* on December 15, 2008, and on the Industrial Commission's web site continuously from November 20, 2008, through the present.

Pursuant to the Notice, a Public Hearing was held on January 6, 2009, in the North Carolina Industrial Commission Hearing Room, Room 2173 of the Dobbs Building in Raleigh, NC. A representative from the Industrial Commission spoke at the hearing to introduce the proposed changes and submit related exhibits. Two other individuals requested to and did speak at the hearing. Other hearing attendees were invited to speak, but did not choose to do so. Exhibits and written comments were received into the record. The record of the Public Hearing was held open for written comments through midnight on January 14, 2009. Three additional sets of comments were received and have been included in the record.

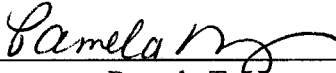
After careful review of the record, **the Commission adopts the following:**

Beginning July 27, 2009, for service dates on and after that date, the following inpatient hospital billing band and outpatient and ambulatory surgical center reimbursement rates shall come into effect:

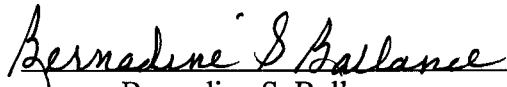
- The lower end cap of the DRG band for reimbursement of inpatient hospital bills will be adjusted from 77.07% to 75% of charges for hospitals other than critical access hospitals. (Critical access hospitals are defined by federal law and are the smallest hospitals in the State, located in rural areas.)
- The reimbursement rate for outpatient hospital bills will be adjusted from 95% of charges to 79% of charges for hospitals other than critical access hospitals. For critical access hospitals, the outpatient reimbursement rate will be reduced from 95% to 87% of charges.
- The reimbursement rate for ambulatory surgical centers will be adjusted from 100% of charges to 79% of charges.

The Industrial Commission takes this action pursuant to Sections 97-26(a) & (b) and 97-80(a) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

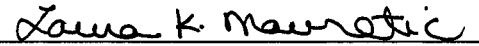
This the 27 day of January, 2009.



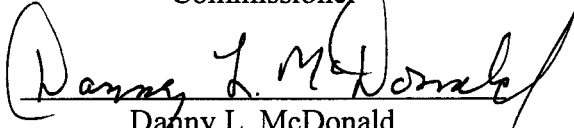
Pamela T. Young
Chair



Bernadine S. Ballance
Commissioner



Laura Kranifeld Mavretic
Commissioner



Danny L. McDonald
Commissioner



Christopher L. Scott
Commissioner



Dianne C. Sellers
Commissioner