

<u>House Bill 373</u> - AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 18 AND 19 OF THE DELAWARE CODE <u>RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE</u>

Primary Sponsor: B. Short Additional Sponsor(s): Rep. Briggs King, Sen. Blevins & Sen. Hocker This Bill was released 6/4/14 favorably from the Economic Development/Banking/Insurance/Commerce Committee -- Now on to the Senate for assignment to a committee.

Synopsis of Original Bill: This Act makes substantial changes to Titles 18 and 19 of the Delaware Code designed to control the level of workers' compensation premiums in Delaware. The most significant changes are (a) a 33% reduction in medical costs to the workers' compensation system, phased in over a period of three years; (b) absolute caps, expressed as a percentage of Medicare per-procedure reimbursements, on all workers' compensation medical procedures beginning on January 1, 2017; and (c) increased independence for the Ratepayer Advocate who represents ratepayers during the workers compensation rate approval process and for the committee that oversees the cost control practices of individual workers compensation insurance carriers.

House Bill 299 - AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 4 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS AND MOVIE THEATERS (Q. Johnson) Passed

This legislation would allow for the sale and consumption of beer, wine and liquor at movie theaters, including consumption within the theater during a movie showing, something that is allowed in at least 30 states including Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Virginia. The bill defines a movie theater as one with at least 500 seats in a single theater or combination of theaters, open at least 5 days a week with at least 250 movie showings in a year. It sets the biennial fee for a movie theater license at \$1,500, the same as the concert hall category created by the General Assembly in 2012, and requires movie theaters to contribute to a Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement investigation fund, the same as other venues. The Alcoholic Beverage and Control Commissioner is required to promulgate regulations to prevent the consumption of alcohol in theaters by those not of legal age, and no licenses can be applied for until such regulations are finalized.

This Bill passed the House 6/5/14 - and now has an amendment that passed with it. The amendment reads: This amendment codifies requirements for a movie theater to receive a liquor license, including a separate bar, one drink at a time, and two drinks per movie, and alcohol training requirements for staff. The Bill and the amendment move on to the Senate for consideration for a Committee assignment.

DID YOU KICK THE CAN DOWN THE ROAD ON INSURANCE DECISIONS?

John and Brad Allen of Allen Insurance will present a workshop on new savings and new opportunities through the Benefits Connection for employees and workers compensation plans that can reduce cost to Chamber members. The seminar is set for **Wednesday**, **September 24**, **2014 at 9:30 AM** – Hampton Inn, Rehoboth Beach. Please mark your calendars now and stand by for more information.

For a complete Calendar of Events, visit the Chamber website - <u>www.beach-fun.com</u>. If you have questions, please give Carol a call on the member hotline- 227-6446, or her cell phone at 542-7547.