1998 SESSION

ENROLLED

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend and reenact § 65.2-604 of the Code of Virginia, relating to workers' compensation; 3 requirement to provide copies of medical reports.

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Approved

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 6

7 1. That § 65.2-604 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: 8

§ 65.2-604. Furnishing copy of medical report.

9 A. Any physician attending an injured employee shall, upon request of the injured employee, 10 employer, or insurer, or of any representative thereof, furnish a copy of any medical report to the injured employee, employer, or insurer, or of any representative thereof or to each of them upon request 11 12 for such medical report.

B. Whenever any health care provider attending an injured employee refers the employee or transfers 13 14 responsibility for his care to another health care provider, the referring or transferring provider, upon 15 receipt of a request therefor, shall promptly transfer or cause to be transferred to the new or succeeding provider, or to the employee or someone acting on behalf of the employee, copies of all diagnostic test 16 results, x-ray photographs, and other medical records pertaining to the employee's injury for which 17 18 further treatment is to be sought from the succeeding provider.

In the event of such referral or transfer, the succeeding provider, if given any such diagnostic test 19 20 results, x-ray photographs and other medical records pertaining to the employee's injury which were performed or recorded within the preceding 60 days by a referring or transferring provider, shall not 21 22 repeat any such diagnostic tests or procedures previously conducted without making a good faith attempt 23 to use them unless there is a medical necessity to do so as certified by a qualified physician on behalf 24 of the succeeding provider. If the succeeding health care provider violates the requirements of this 25 paragraph, such succeeding provider shall not be entitled to compensation or reimbursement from the 26 injured employee's employer or the employer's insurer for any repeated test or procedure not so certified 27 to be medically necessary, nor may the succeeding provider require the employee to bear any cost associated with the repeated test or procedure which would have been the responsibility of the employer 28 29 or his insurer but for the provisions of this subsection.

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