The Workers’ Disability Compensation Act of 1969 requires that the Workers’ Compensation Agency (WCA) promulgate administrative rules to establish and annually revise a schedule of maximum payments for medical, surgical, and hospital services, treatments, devices, apparatus, attendances, and medicines provided to employees who sustained injury or illness causally related to employment and paid for by workers’ compensation carriers. Additionally, the WCA annually publishes the Health Care Services Manual, containing detailed billing and payment protocols and procedures as a guide for implementation of the Health Care Service Rules.

2015-008-LR would amend rules to update billing and reimbursement language to include Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants, reduce the period preceding the expiration of workers’ compensation carrier certification during which a carrier must submit application for renewal from six months to 90 days, and make technical revisions to dates for which rules pertaining to opioid treatment are applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RULES

The rules amended by 2015-008-LR would not have a significant fiscal impact on the workers’ compensation costs of the state (which self-insures) and local units of government (large LUGs also self-insure, while smaller LUGs purchase coverage though the Michigan Municipal League or other insurance carriers and could realize savings in future policy premiums) since fee schedules are not revised (they were most recently revised by 2014-029-LR, effective 12/26/14).

Fiscal Analyst: Paul B.A. Holland