

(In effect as of January 1, 2006\*)

TABLE 19. WORKER'S COMPENSATION ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND STUDY COMMISSIONS

State	Name of Committee or Commission	Appointed By	Purpose	Nature of Finished Product	Interests Represented	Term	Status and/or Accomplishments
Alabama	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Alaska	Medical Services Review Committee	Commissioner of Labor & Workforce Development	Advise Department and Board regarding appreciativeness, necessity, and cost of medical and related services provided in workers' compensation program.	Periodic reports/recommendations.	Health care providers - 4 Public - 4 Chair - Commissioner's designee	Start - 2005 ongoing	Initial report submitted to Legislative Task Force 12/2005.
Arizona	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Arkansas	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
California	Commission on Health and Safety, and Workers' Compensation	Governor - 4; Senate Committee on Rules - 2; Speaker of the Assembly - 2	Continued examination of wc system.	Annual report, with recommendations.	Labor - 4 Employers - 4	Start - 1994 Ongoing	Issued annual report which made recommendations for administrative modifications and legislative proposals for the wc system.
California	Return to Work Advisory Committee	Administrative Director, Division of WC	Assist the return to work program by recommending forms, procedures, and rules to more effectively administer return to work regulations.	No annual report.	Insurers - 12 Employer groups - 8 Attorneys - 3 Unions - 5	Start - 2005 Ongoing	Develop Return to Work regulations that have gone through the public hearing process, which promote the early and sustained return to work of employees following a work related injury or illness. The proposed regulations will now be sent to the public for a 15-day comment within the next week and ultimately submitted to the Office of Administrative Law for adoption.

\*See Introduction page.

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Colorado	Medical Care Advisory Committee	Director, Division of Workers' Compensation	Examine medical care issues.	Recommendations and advice to the Director.	Physicians - 2 Chiropractor - 1 Risk Manager - 1 Insurance - 1 Claimant Attorney - 1 Small Business - 1	Repealed 7/1/03	Recommended updates for the medical fee schedule rules. Recommended medical treatment guidelines for low back pain, cervical spine injury and lower extremities under a new model that combines medical evidence and consensus. Also recommended updating the Level 1 Physician Accreditation Program.
Connecticut	Workers' Compensation Advisory Board	Governor	Advise Chairman on legal, procedural, and personal matters.	Recommendations for statutes, regulations, and commissioner appointments.	Labor - 4 Industry - 4 Injured Workers - 1	Start - four-year term	Policy recommendations; appointment recommendations.
Connecticut	Medical Advisory Panel	Chairman, Workers' Compensation Commission	Advise Chairman on medical issues.	Consultation with Chairman.	Medical community and injured workers	Flexible	Active; no formal reports available.
Connecticut	Legal Advisory Panel	Chairman, Workers' Compensation Commission	Advise Chairman on litigation matters.	Consultation with Chairman	Attorneys Claimants	Flexible	Active; no formal reports available.

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Delaware	Advisory Group	Governor	Consult with the Department of Labor in developing its annual review of the effectiveness of the management of the Industrial Accident Board's caseload.	Assistance in developing annual review.	Legislators - 2 Chairpersons Business - 3 Labor - 3 Attorneys - 2 (each represents claimants and employers) Industrial Accident Board - 2 Physician - 1	Start - Jan-98 Ongoing	Has met monthly; will make recommendations to the Governor on W. C. reform by 6/30/06.
District of Columbia	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Florida	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Georgia	Workers' Compensation Board Advisory Council	WC Board	Foster better communications between the Board and the various participants in the wc system.	Better communication and cooperation between the parties represented. Procedures may be changed, forms revised, or new procedures concerning wc implemented.	Physicians Employers Employees Carriers Self-Insurers Rehabilitation Providers Attorneys (approx. 87 members divided in six sub-committees)	Start - May-87 Indefinite	The subcommittees continually make recommendations both legislatively and administratively to improve the wc system in Georgia.
Hawaii	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						

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Idaho	Industrial Commission Advisory Committee on Workers' Compensation	Commission	To provide assistance and advice on the wc system to the Industrial Commission.	Recommendations to the Industrial Commission.	Workers - 3 Management - 3 Insurance Industry - 2 Attorneys: Claimants - 2 Employer - 2 Medical Providers - 1	Start - 1/1/2000 3 years staggered	Meets every two - four months. Revising medical fee database for dispute resolution. Worked on legislation with H&W to establish a fee for child support garnishments of w.c. benefits. Addressed out of state adjuster problems.
Illinois	Workers' Compensation Advisory Board	Governor	Assist the WC Commission in formulating policy, discuss problems, set priorities of expenditures and establishes short and long range goals for administration.	Recommendations to the Governor regarding policy, solutions to problems, and administrative goals.	Employer Representatives - 3 Employee Representatives - 3 Other Categories - 3	Start - 12/18/1989 Indefinite	Inactive.
Illinois	Illinois Self-Insurer's Advisory Board	Chairman, Industrial Commission	Regulate the private individual self-insurance privilege in Illinois.	Determinations of employers' financial status and amount of security employers are required to post.	Public member - 1 Chairman, IC - 1 Self-Insurance experts - 5	Start - 1/1/1986 Ongoing	Graded financial status of employers; made determinations for amount of security each employer is required to post.
Indiana	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Iowa	Iowa Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee (non-governmental)	A Private Corporation that selects it's members and is governed by its bylaws.	To provide advice and assistance to the commissioner and seek improvements to the WC system by a consensus building process among business, labor, insurance and their legal counsel.	Recommendations to the commissioner, Governor, and legislature; legislative and administrative rule proposals.	Agency- 2 Agriculture-1 Health Services- 1 Labor- 5 Management-5 Insurance- 5 Attorneys: Employee- 5 Employer- 5 Ex Officio- 4 Ex Parte- 2	Ongoing	Meets 4 times annually, conducts the leading WC conference seminar in Iowa each June, adopts legislative proposals that are customerily enacted, an ongoing forum for policy discussion.

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Kansas	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Secretary, Department of Human Resources	Bring labor and industry together to recommend beneficial Changes to the wc laws.	Make recommendations to improve wc laws.	Labor - 5 Management - 5 WC Division - 1 Insurance - 1	Start - 1993 Ongoing	Continued to monitor the wc statute; participated in major reform of wc law, reviewing technical and policy issues.
Kentucky	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Governor	Study all aspects of the wc program.	Provide recommendations to the Governor and Legislature on all matters relating to the wc program.	Labor - 8 Management - 8	Start - 1987 Ongoing	No recommendations made as of 1/1/05.
Louisiana	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Governor	Monitor the administration of the wc law.	Reports on the implementation and administration of the wc law and makes specific recommendations to the Governor and legislature.	Labor - 2 Attorney - 2 Self-Insurer - 1 Business - 2 State Medical Society - 1 Citizens - 5	Start - Jan-90 Ongoing	No recommendations made as of 1/1/04
Maine	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Maryland	Joint Workers' Compensation Benefits and Insurance Oversight Committee	President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Delegates	Assess the impact of the legislative reforms of 1987, and subsequent issues that arise based on experience or appellate opinions.	Report to the General Assembly.	Senators - 2 Delegates - 2 Labor - 1 Construction Industry - 1 Public - 2 Insurance - 1 Rating Organizations - 1 Physicians - 1	Start - 1/1/1988 Ongoing	Discussed legislation and other issues that have arisen based on experience or appellate opinions.

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Massachusetts	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Governor	Monitor the wc system through legislative recommendations and various studies.	Annual report; recommend, give testimony, and report on all aspects of the wc system.	Labor - 5 Business - 5 Medical - 1 Legal - 1 Insurance - 1 Government - 2 Voc Rehab - 1	Members are appointed to five-year terms.	Reviewed legislation and offered recommendations; monitored the dispute resolution system; published annual report detailing the State wc system and offering recommendations to make improvements; monitored the Department of Industrial Accidents' budget in detail; analyzed costs of increasing wc benefit; analyzed insurance industry rate filing and concepts.

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Michigan	Qualifications Advisory Committee	Governor	Interview and review the qualifications of prospective candidates. Make recommendations to the Governor for appointment to the WC Board of Magistrates and WC Appellate Commission.	Recommend qualified individuals to the Governor for appointment to the WC Board of Magistrates.	Employer and employee representatives	Ongoing - members serve 4-year terms	Ongoing. Interviews conducted and recommendations made as needed to fill vacancies on the Board of Magistrates.

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Michigan	Health Care Advisory Committee	Bureau Director	Assist the Health Care Services Division with cost containment.	Establishing medical fees.	Business, Medical providers Worker representatives	1989 - Ongoing	Assisted in the establishment of medical fee schedules and responsible for cost containment. Negotiating new practitioner fees.
Michigan	Director's Advisory Committee	Bureau Director	Discuss and advise the Director on issues related to wc.	Discuss and strategize on possible solutions to issues that arise within the wc community and system.	Self-insured Group-insured Insurance Carriers WC Section Representatives	Ongoing	Provide ongoing assistance to the Director regarding wc issues.

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Minnesota	Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation	Governor, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders; Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives	Study and report on all proposed wc legislation; monitor wc insurance rate trends.	Report to the Legislature on or before February 1st of each regular session.	Business - 6 Labor - 6 Representatives - 2 (nonvoting) Senators - 2 (nonvoting)	Start - May-92 Expires: only if the council no longer fulfills the purpose for which it was established; if the council hasn't met for 18 months; or, if the council does not comply with registration requirements	Proposed Workers' Compensation statute changes forwarded to state legislature.
Mississippi	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Chairman, Workers' Compensation Commission	Develop legislation agreed upon by all parties.	Legislation; make recommendations to improve administration of the wc law.	25 members (representing all parties)	Start - Oct-85 Ongoing	No recommendations made as of 1/1/04.
Missouri	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Montana	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						

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Nebraska	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						
Nevada	Advisory Council NRS 232.570	Governor	Act in an advisory capacity to the Administrator, conduct studies or investigations concerning the organization and administration of DIR and make recommendations to DIR's Administrator based on the results of such studies and investigations; it must review on a quarterly basis the records of oral complaints compiled by DIR's OSHA section and submit any comments or recommendations regarding the complaints or the records to DIR's Administrator. May remove from DIR's records the name of a debtor and the amount of debt owed by him, if 3 years have elapsed since the debt was incurred and the Council determines the the debt remains impossible or impractical to collect.		Labor - 1 Union - 2 Management - 3 Public - 1	Ongoing	Approved write off of bad debts.
New Hampshire	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Governor	Forum for discussing wc program to identify problems and prepare legislation.	Annual report.	Labor - 1 Employer - 1 Insurance Industry - 1 Labor Commissioner or designee - 1 *Member of the House - 1 *Member of the Senate - 1	Ongoing	Reviewed issues affecting the compensation community, and reviewed facets of managed care in the wc system.  (*appointed by President of the House and Senate, respectively)
New Jersey	Commissioner's Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation	Commissioner of Labor	Examine current policies procedures, rules and regulations of the wc system. Study initiatives taken in other wc systems.	Recommendations to the Commissioner.	Insurance Industry - 5 Labor - 2 Self-Insurers - 2 Lawyers - 6 Academia - 1 Misc. - 2	Ongoing	Reviewed issues affecting the compensation/insurance community; and, reviewed facets of the State's wc system.

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State	Name of Committee or Commission	Appointed By	Purpose	Nature of Finished Product	Interests Represented	Term	Status and/or Accomplishments
New Mexico	Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation and Occupational Disease Disablement	Governor	Study and make recommendations regarding legislation, rules, data research and the combined wc and occupational disease disablement system; review administration of wc and occupational disease laws.	Annual report to Governor, Superintendent of Insurance, and legislature	Business - 3 Labor - 3 Director, WC Administration is ex officio member	Council is ongoing, 3 members serve 2 years, 3 serve 3 years, 4 years	In 2003, through 2005, legislative recommendations approved by the Advisory Council were enacted; those disapproved by the Advisory Council were not passed by the legislature.
New York	Advisory Committee on Medical Fee Schedules and Allied Problems	Chairman, WC Board	Recommend and advise Chairman on changes in the medical fee schedule as well as promulgation of chiropractic, podiatry, physical therapy, and outpatient hospital fee schedules.	Chiropractic, medical and podiatry rating and fee recommendations.	Medical - 6 Commerce and Industry - 1 Labor - 1 Self-Insurance - 1 No Fault Insurance - 1 Insurance Carriers - 5 State Insurance Department - 2	Ongoing	Incorporated new and deleted AMA CPT codes into the medical fee schedule.

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New York	Self-Insurance Advisory Committee	Chairman, WC Board	Advise Chairman on all matters relating to self-insurers, i.e., regarding rules governing self-insurers, and deposit or withdrawal of securities.	Recommendations to the Chairman.	Self-Insurers WC Community Ongoing	Start - 1965	No recommendations made as of 1/1/04.
New York	Advisory Committee on Administrative Practices and Procedures	Chairman, WC Board	Provide assistance to Chairman in reviewing, revising and instituting new internal and external procedures, rules, regulations and laws.	Suggestions for improvements in administration.	Law - 4 Medical - 1 Self-Insurance - 2 Licensed representatives - 1 NY Committee for NYCOSH - 1 Carriers - 4 Special Funds Conservation Committee - 1 Business - 1 Labor - 2	Ongoing	Discussed future opening of additional district offices to accommodate increased case workloads; discussed system's modernization efforts, and the hiring and training of judges.
North Carolina	Medical Advisory Committee	North Carolina Medical Society (for physicians only; other providers are appointed by each association or commission)	Advise Commission on appropriate fees for medical services rendered to wc claimants by physicians, hospitals, dentists, prosthetists, therapists, and chiropractors.	Recommendations to Industrial Commission.	Physicians - 33	Ongoing - serves at the pleasure of the North Carolina Medical Society	Made recommendations and adjustments to medical fee schedule for approval by the Commission. Meet once a year to review contested cases.

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State	Name of Committee or Commission	Appointed By	Purpose	Nature of Finished Product	Interests Represented	Term	Status and/or Accomplishments
North Carolina	Advisory Medical Committee	Governor	Examine claimants for silicosis and asbestosis.	Medical evaluations.	Physicians - 3	Start - 1935 six-year terms	Conducted examinations of claimants for asbestosis and silicosis.
North Carolina	Occupational Disease Panel	Industrial Commission	Examine claimants suspected of having byssinosis. Provide medical opinions to Commission.	Medical evaluations.	Physicians - 22 (Number of physicians increases as more pulmonary specialists become interested in serving. The Commission approves their qualifications.)	Start - 1979 and serve at the pleasure of the Commission	Panel continues to examine and review cases of suspected byssinosis and make evaluations.
North Carolina	Advisory Council	Chairman, Industrial Commission	Advise Chairman on wc issues and other matters within jurisdiction of Commission.	Make recommendations on changes to Commission rules and regulations.	Attorneys Physicians Labor Management	Start - 7/5/1994 and serve at the pleasure of the Chairman	Assisted with drafting of new rules and regulations, and provided technical knowledge and expertise. Provided good balance of competing interest in order to give overall picture of issues currently facing the Commission.

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State	Name of Committee or Commission	Appointed By	Purpose	Nature of Finished Product	Interests Represented	Term	Status and/or Accomplishments
North Dakota	Board of Directors	Governor	Provide general guidance at the macro level for Bureau policy. Monitors goals program whose aim is the constant improvement of the wc program.	Recommendations, to improve wc program.	Employer Representatives- 6 Business - 1 (under \$10,000 in premiums) Business - 1 (\$10,000 - \$25,000 in premiums) Business - 2 (over \$25,000 in premiums) Risk Management Program Specialist - 1 At-Large - 1 Medical Provider, MD - 1 Employees - 3 (one employee must have had a wc claim; one must represent organized labor) At-Large - 1	Start - 8/1/1997 Ongoing  (Board member terms are 4 years)	Board approved the implementation of additional premium incentive programs.
Ohio	Bureau of Workers' Compensation Oversight Commission	Governor	Review programs of BWC in meeting cost/quality standards, and set investment policy.	Make recommendations regarding cost/quality standards, and review rules.	Employers - 2 Employees - 2 Public - 1 Legislature - 4 (non-voting)	Start - 1/17/96 Ongoing	Approved premium reductions or refunds of \$590 million for public employers during Calendar year 2000, and \$2.6 billion in 2001

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Oklahoma	Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation	Governor, President Pro Tempore of Senate, and Speaker of House of Representatives (3 members each)	Analyze and review the wc system, the WC Administrator's annual report, and trends in wc.	Make annual recommendations on improvements and proper responses to trends in wc to the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.	Employers - 3 Employees - 3 Attorneys - 3 Administrator and Presiding Judge are ex officio members	Start - Sep-90 Ongoing	Monitored legislation and provided recommendations regarding changes in system.
Oklahoma	Physician Advisory Committee	Governor, President Pro Tempore of Senate, and Speaker of House of Representatives (3 members each)	Advise wc court on medical matters concerning wc.	Assist the WC Court regarding utilization review and abusive medical practices; provide recommendations on deviations from the AMA Guides, alternative methods to evaluate permanent impairment, treatment guidelines, utilization controls, and injury causation and apportionment; conduct educational seminars; and, help the Court to access medical information.	Doctor of Medicine - 2 Rural Family Doctor - 1 Osteopathic Phys. - 2 Podiatrist - 1 Chiropractor - 1 Either doctor of medicine or osteopathy - 2 (members represent different congressional districts and serve 3-year terms)	Start - 9/1/1993 Ongoing	Reviewed treatment guidelines and made recommendations for appropriate changes.

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Oregon	Advisory Committee on Medical Care (statutory)	Director, Department of Consumer and Business Services	Advise the Director on medical care provisions.	Recommendations on rules and medical care to injured workers.	Physicians - 5+ Insurers - 1 Injured Workers - 1 Employers - 1 MCOS - 1	Start - 1966 Ongoing	Active.
Oregon	Management/Labor Advisory Committee (Statutory)	Governor	Advise the Director and Legislature on wc issues.	Advice on issues relating to wc legislation and administration.	Management - 5 Organized Labor - 5	Start - 1989 Ongoing	Active.
Pennsylvania	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Senate and House Majority and Minority leaders	Review requests for funding by the Department of Labor and Industry, and any assessments against employers or insurers; review proposed legislation and regulations; and, review the annual medical accessibility study.	Reports findings to the Governor, the Department of Labor and Industry Secretary, and the Legislature.	Secretary of Labor and Industry - 1 (ex officio) Business - 4 Labor - 4	Reinstated - 1987 Ends - Indefinite	Conducted five business meetings. Reviewed and approved "Workers' Compensation Advisory Council Chronology Report." Adopted resolution for public comment procedures at future council meetings. Drafted and sent letter in support of PA House bill 171, regarding the inclusion of Hepatitis C contracted by State and County probation and parole officers, along with DEP employees, in the definition of "Occupational Disease." Reviewed 2004 Medical Accessibility Study, Self-Insurance Regulations, "PA Injuries" statistical data reports and the Council's by-laws.
Puerto Rico	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						

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Rhode Island	Governor's Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Governor	Advise the Governor and the General Assembly on an annual basis the administration of the wc system.	Annual recommendations on proposed legislation made to the General Assembly and the Governor.	WC Court - 2 WC Insurance Fund - 1 State Department Directors - 3 Labor - 3 Business - 3 General Public - 1 House - 1 Senate - 1	Start - 2001 Ends - Indefinite	Made recommendations on proposed legislation to the General Assembly and the Governor.
South Carolina	Governor's Advisory Committee for the Improvement of Workers' Compensation Laws	Governor	Consider improvements in wc law and monitor the effectiveness of existing law; provide input to legislative process by knowledgeable representatives of interest groups.	Annual recommendations for changes are made to the General Assembly.	Defense attorney - 1 Claimant attorney - 1 Labor representative - 1 General public - 1 Plaintiff attorney - 1	Start - 1974 Permanent	No recommendations made as of 1/1/04.
South Dakota	Governor's Council on Workers' Compensation	Governor, Lt. Governor serves as non-voting Chair	Review wc system and make recommendations for statutory and administrative changes; examine feasible cost control measures.	Annual report; recommendations require unanimous vote.	Eight members, four each representing employers and employees	Start - 1991 Ongoing	No recommendations made as of 1/1/04.

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Tennessee	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Governor, Speaker of House, Speaker of Senate	Review wc system and make recommendations for statutory and administrative changes; examine feasible cost control measures.	Reports, recommendations.	Six members: employee/ labor - 3 employer/ business - 3	Start - 2-4 yrs.	Active.
Texas	Workers' Research Function at Texas Department of Insurance	Insurance Commissioner appointed by Governor	Researches and monitors the wc system.	Research reports			

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Utah	Medical Fee Advisory Committee	Labor Commission	Advise the Industrial Commission on medical fees and coding procedures.	Recommend medical fee factor for relative value system.	Physicians - 2 Chiropractor - 1 Physical Therapist - 1 Reviewer of medical billings - 1 Insurance - 1 State Fund - 1 Self-Insurers - 1 Labor - 1	Start - Jan-81 Ongoing	Recommended a rule which adopted the Federal RVS (Relative Value Schedule) with own conversion factors. Currently using 2003 Federal RBRVS with own conversion factors.
Utah	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Labor Commission	Advise the Industrial Commission and Legislature and make recommendations on wc and occupational disease laws.	Meets quarterly.	Employers - 5 Employees - 5 3 nonvoting members representing State WC Fund, private insurers and health care providers.	Start - 5/2/94 Ongoing	Reviews all rules and legislation. Make recommendations on both rules and legislation.
Vermont	Medical Advisory Committee	Commissioner	Advise department on WC Medical Fee Schedule		Health Care Employees Employers	Ongoing	Developed current Medical Fee Schedule
Virginia	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						

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Washington	Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee	Director, Department of Labor and Industry (L&I)	Advise the Department on wc matters.	Report to the Department, the Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals, and all special interest groups	Employers - 3 Employees - 3 Self-Insured Employers - 1 Employees of Self-Insured - 1 Ex Officio Member - 1	Start - 7/1/1971 Ongoing	Provide on-going advice regarding major multi-year system design initiative (ORCA). In depth review of reserve and ratemaking policies. Advise on two pilot programs to test concepts for improving the delivery of occupational medicine to injured workers (COHE).

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West Virginia	Workers' Compensation Commission Board of Managers	Privatized	Privatized	Privatized	Labor- 4 Business- 4 State Agency- 3 Legislative- 4 (non-voting)	Privatized	New law effective 01/29/05 creates Industrial Counsel under Insurance Commissioner and WC Commission to become private actual carrier 01/01/06.
Wisconsin	Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	Secretary of Workforce Development	Proposed legislation to improve the wc system.	Series of amendments to the wc statute.	Labor - 5 Industry - 5 Insurance Industry - 3 (non-voting) State agency - 1	Start - each October Ends - prior to commencement of legislative session.	Currently gathering information for areas of possible legislative change in 2008. New law will be effective in April 2006.
Wyoming	NO COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS						