

# SENATE BILL 177

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EMERGENCY BILL  
(PRE-FILED)

2lr0008

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By: **Chair, Finance Committee (By Request – Departmental – Uninsured Employers’ Fund)**

Requested: October 21, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Uninsured Employers’ Fund – Payments to Former Employees of Bethlehem**  
3 **Steel Corporation**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the workers’ compensation benefits that the Director of the  
5 Uninsured Employers’ Fund is required to pay to former employees of the Bethlehem  
6 Steel Corporation; applying this Act retroactively; and generally relating to the  
7 Uninsured Employers’ Fund.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Labor and Employment  
10 Section 10–314  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Labor and Employment**

16 10–314.

17 (a) The Fund shall consist of:

18 (1) the money credited to the Fund under Title 9 of this article;

19 (2) income from investments that the State Treasurer makes for the Fund;  
20 and

21 (3) interest on deposits or investments of money from the Fund.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, the Director shall use the Fund to pay:

2 (1) each award under Title 9 of this article charged against the Fund;

3 (2) the amount that the Director authorizes for an expert or witness hired  
4 under § 10–310(c) of this subtitle;

5 (3) other proper charges that the Director authorizes;

6 (4) whenever an employer who is self-insured in accordance with § 9–404  
7 or § 9–405 of this article becomes insolvent, any outstanding obligations of the employer;  
8 and

9 (5) [hearing loss claims for retirees of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation]  
10 **CAUSALLY RELATED HEARING LOSS MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR FORMER**  
11 **EMPLOYEES OF THE BETHLEHEM STEEL CORPORATION.**

12 (c) The liability of the Board, Director, Fund, State Treasurer, and State for all  
13 proper charges against the Fund is limited to the assets of the Fund.

14 (d) Beginning in fiscal year 2021, the Director may use the Fund to pay for the  
15 administration of the Fund only if an appropriation is included in the State budget for this  
16 purpose.

17 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act shall be construed to  
18 apply retroactively and shall be applied to and interpreted to affect any workers'  
19 compensation claims filed before the effective date of this Act.

20 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act is an emergency  
21 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
22 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
23 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
24 enacted.