2019 Annual Report
SOUTH DAKOTA WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

This document serves as the report of meetings, discussions, and recommendations of the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council (WCAC), pursuant to SDCL 62-2-10. Council members include Scott Stern (chair), Jesse Smith, Jean Murphy, Kory Rawstern, Randy Stainbrook, Russ Hohn, Guy Bender, Jason Dodson, Brooke Bohnenkamp, and the nonvoting member Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) Secretary Marcia Hultman. The report is available to any interested person or groups and can be found at dlr.sd.gov.

Effective July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, an overall average decrease of 11.9% was approved for the advisory loss costs in the voluntary market, and an overall average rate level decrease of 19.1% was approved in the Assigned Risk Market from the previous year. Due to the classification swing limit of 15%, the maximum increase per classification in the voluntary market is 3.1%, and the maximum decrease per classification is 26.9% from the prior year loss costs. These base rates do not factor in "experience-modification" adjustments, which change some individual employers' premium rates based on injury claims.

WCAC action for 2019 began at the November 18, 2019, meeting. The Council received the Division of Labor and Management's report about the state of the system. The public had the opportunity to offer comments. The Council held its second meeting via conference call on December 11, 2019. No recommendations were made for legislative or other changes. Submitted documents and Council minutes will be available at: http://dlr.sd.gov/workers_compensation/meetings.aspx.

Respectfully submitted on December 11, 2019, by the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council.

Amber L. Mulder
Director of Labor and Management