

673

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 5, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. LANCMAN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the civil practice law and rules, the insurance law, the workers' compensation law, the general municipal law and the court of claims act, in relation to enacting the "adversarial medical examination procedure act"

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as
2 the "adversarial medical examination procedure act".
3 S 2. The legislature hereby finds and declares that the conducting of
4 physical and mental examinations in the course of civil litigation and
5 other civil proceedings has evolved in a manner inconsistent with the
6 civil practice law and rules and fundamental notions of due process.
7 Indeed, a commonly used term for such examinations, an "independent
8 medical examination," is itself a misnomer because the physician
9 conducting such examination is not at all independent, but is in fact
10 being compensated by a party or insurer whose interests are typically
11 adverse to those of the party being examined. Further, parties being
12 examined are frequently required to provide written responses to ques-
13 tions outside the discovery process prescribed in the civil practice law
14 and rules or relevant claims process and without the opportunity to
15 obtain advice of counsel, even though such written responses can and are
16 being used as admissions and/or to later impeach the examined party in
17 the course of such proceeding. Accordingly, the name by which such an
18 examination is called needs to be changed to reflect the true adver-
19 sarial nature of such examination; the process for obtaining information
20 from the party to be examined which is necessary to the proper conduct-
21 ing of the examination needs to be brought within the carefully consid-

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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ered discovery process which already exists in the civil practice law and rules or claims process.

S 3. Section 3121 of the civil practice law and rules, subdivision (a) as amended by chapter 294 of the laws of 1984, is amended to read as follows:

S 3121. [Physical or mental] ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination. (a) Notice of AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination. After commencement of an action in which the mental or physical condition or the blood relationship of a party, or of an agent, employee or person in the custody or under the legal control of a party, is in controversy, any party may serve notice on another party to submit to a physical, mental or blood [examination] "ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION" by a designated physician, or to produce for such ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination his OR HER agent, employee or the person in his OR HER custody or under his OR HER legal control. The notice may require duly executed and acknowledged written authorizations permitting all parties to obtain, and make copies of, the records of specified hospitals relating to such mental or physical condition or blood relationship; where a party obtains a copy of a hospital record as a result of the authorization of another party, he OR SHE shall deliver a duplicate of the copy to such party. A copy of the notice shall be served on the person SUBJECT to [be examined] THE ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION. It shall specify the time, which shall be not less than twenty days after service of the notice, and the conditions and scope of the ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination, AND IT SHALL INFORM THE PERSON SUBJECT TO THE EXAMINATION THAT HE OR SHE HAS THE RIGHT TO HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT DURING SUCH EXAMINATION, AND SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO RECORD OR TAPE SUCH EXAMINATION IN A MANNER SUCH AS NOT TO UNREASONABLY IMPEDE SUCH EXAMINATION. THE PERSON SUBJECT TO THE ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE ANY DOCUMENTS OR SUPPLY ANY WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PUT TO HIM OR HER AT SUCH EXAMINATION EXCEPT AS IN RESPONSE TO PROPERLY SERVED DISCOVERY DEMANDS MADE PURSUANT TO THE CIVIL PRACTICE LAW AND RULES.

(b) Copy of report. A copy of a detailed written report of the examining physician setting out [his] THE findings and conclusions OF THE ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION shall be delivered by the party seeking the ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination to [any] EACH party [requesting to exchange therefor a copy of each report in his control of an examination made with respect to the mental or physical condition in controversy] WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF SUCH EXAMINATION.

(C) FAILURE TO EXCHANGE. NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION SHALL LIMIT THE RIGHTS OF ANY PARTY FROM MOVING TO PRECLUDE OR FOR SEEKING OTHER SANCTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 3124 OR SECTION 3126 FOR FAILURE TO EXCHANGE A DETAILED WRITTEN REPORT OF AN "ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION" UPON OTHER PARTIES TO AN ACTION.

S 4. Section 5102 of the insurance law is amended by adding a new subsection (n) to read as follows:

(N) "ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION" MEANS ANY PHYSICAL EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY AN INSURER MADE IN RESPONSE TO A CLAIM MADE PURSUANT TO BENEFITS UNDER THIS ARTICLE. THE PERSON SUBJECT TO EXAMINATION SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT DURING SUCH EXAMINATION AND SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO RECORD OR TAPE SUCH EXAMINATION IN A MANNER SUCH AS NOT TO UNREASONABLY IMPEDE SUCH EXAMINATION. THE PERSON TO BE EXAMINED SHALL BE INFORMED OF SUCH RIGHTS AT LEAST TWENTY DAYS PRIOR TO SUCH EXAMINATION. IF SUCH EXAMINATION SHALL BE USED TO DENY, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, ANY BENEFITS UNDER THIS SECTION, A COPY OF THE DETAILED WRITTEN REPORT OF SUCH EXAMINATION, WRITTEN BY THE EXAMINING PHYSICIAN

OR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL, SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE INJURED PARTY AND ANY THIRD-PARTY MEDICAL PROVIDER TO WHOM THE INJURED PARTY MAY HAVE ASSIGNED HIS OR HER CLAIM OR CLAIMS FOR BENEFITS ALONG WITH ANY DENIAL OF BENEFITS. IN THE EVENT SUCH REPORT IS NOT SO PROVIDED BY THE INSURER OR SELF-INSURER ALONG WITH THE DENIAL, THE INSURER SHALL BE PRECLUDED FROM USING SUCH REPORT TO SUPPORT ANY DENIAL OF SUCH CLAIM.

S 5. Subdivision 4 of section 13-a of the workers' compensation law, as amended by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

(4) (a) No claim for medical or surgical treatment shall be valid and enforceable, as against such employer, or employee, unless within forty-eight hours following the first treatment the physician giving such treatment furnishes to the employer and directly to the chair a preliminary notice of such injury and treatment, within fifteen days thereafter a more complete report and subsequent thereto progress reports if requested in writing by the chair, board, employer or insurance carrier at intervals of not less than three weeks apart or at less frequent intervals if requested on forms prescribed by the chair. The board may excuse failure to give such notices within the designated periods when it finds it to be in the interest of justice to do so.

(b) Upon receipt of the notice provided for by paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the employer, the carrier, and the claimant each shall be entitled to have the claimant examined by a physician authorized by the chair in accordance with sections thirteen-b and one hundred thirty-seven of this chapter, at a medical facility convenient to the claimant and in the presence of the claimant's physician, and refusal by the claimant to submit to such [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination at such time or times as may reasonably be necessary in the opinion of the board, shall bar the claimant from recovering compensation for any period during which he or she has refused to submit to such examination. No hospital shall be required to produce the records of any claimant without receiving its customary fees or charges for reproduction of such records.

(c) Where it would place an unreasonable burden upon the employer or carrier to arrange for, or for the claimant to attend, an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination by an authorized physician, the employer or carrier shall arrange for such examination to be performed by a qualified physician in a medical facility convenient to the claimant.

(d) The [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examiner shall provide such reports and shall submit to investigation as required by the chair.

(e) In order to qualify as admissible medical evidence, for purposes of adjudicating any claim under this chapter, any report submitted to the board by an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examiner licensed by the state of New York shall include the following:

(i) a signed statement certifying that the report is a full and truthful representation of the [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examiner's professional opinion with respect to the claimant's condition:

(ii) such examiner's board issued authorization number;

(iii) the name of the individual or entity requesting the examination;

(iv) if applicable, the registration number as required by section thirteen-n of this article; and

(v) such other information as the chair may require by regulation.

Any report by an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examiner who is not authorized, and who performs an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination in accordance with paragraph (c) of this subdivision, which is

1 to be used as medical evidence under this chapter, shall include in the
2 report such information as the chair may require by regulation.

3 S 6. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 13-b of the workers' compensation
4 law, as amended by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000, are amended to read
5 as follows:

6 1. Upon the recommendation of the medical society of the county in
7 which the physician's office is located or of a board designated by such
8 county society or of a board representing duly licensed physicians of
9 any other school of medical practice in such county, the chair may
10 authorize physicians licensed to practice medicine in the state of New
11 York to render medical care under this chapter and to perform [independ-
12 ent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in accordance with subdivision
13 four of section thirteen-a of this article. If, within sixty days after
14 the chair requests such recommendations the medical society of such
15 county or board fails to act, or if there is no such society in such
16 county, the chair shall designate a board of three outstanding physi-
17 cians, who shall make the requisite recommendations.

18 No such authorization shall be made in the absence of a recommendation
19 of the appropriate society or board or of a review and recommendation by
20 the medical appeals unit. No person shall render medical care or conduct
21 [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this chapter with-
22 out such authorization by the chair, provided, that:

23 (a) Any physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of New
24 York may render emergency medical care under this chapter without
25 authorization by the chair under this section; and

26 (b) A licensed physician who is a member of a constituted medical
27 staff of any hospital may render medical care under this chapter while
28 an injured employee remains a patient in such hospital; and

29 (c) Under the active and personal supervision of an authorized physi-
30 cian medical care may be rendered by a registered nurse or other person
31 trained in laboratory or diagnostic techniques within the scope of such
32 person's specialized training and qualifications. This supervision shall
33 be evidenced by signed records of instructions for treatment and signed
34 records of the patient's condition and progress. Reports of such treat-
35 ment and supervision shall be made by such physician to the chair on
36 such forms and at such times as the chair may require.

37 (d) Upon the referral which may be directive as to treatment of an
38 authorized physician physical therapy care may be rendered by a duly
39 licensed physical therapist. Where physical therapy care is rendered
40 records of the patient's condition and progress, together with records
41 of instruction for treatment, if any, shall be maintained by the phys-
42 ical therapist and physician. Said records shall be submitted to the
43 chair on such forms and at such times as the chair may require.

44 (e) Upon the prescription or referral of an authorized physician occu-
45 pational therapy care may be rendered by a duly licensed occupational
46 therapist. Where occupational therapy care is rendered records of the
47 patient's condition and progress, together with records of instruction
48 for treatment, if any shall be maintained by the occupational therapist
49 and physician. Said records shall be submitted to the chair on forms and
50 at such times as the chair may require.

51 (f) Where it would place an unreasonable burden upon the employer or
52 carrier to arrange for, or for the claimant to attend, an [independent]
53 ADVERSARIAL medical examination by an authorized physician, the employer
54 or carrier shall arrange for such examination to be performed by a qual-
55 ified physician in a medical facility convenient to the claimant.

1 2. A physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of New York
2 who is desirous of being authorized to render medical care under this
3 chapter and/or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations
4 in accordance with paragraph (b) of subdivision four of section thir-
5 teen-a and section one hundred thirty-seven of this chapter shall file
6 an application for authorization under this chapter with the medical
7 society in the county in which his or her office is located, or with a
8 board designated by such society, or with a board designated by the
9 chair as provided in this section. In such application the applicant
10 shall state his or her training and qualifications, and shall agree to
11 limit his or her professional activities under this chapter to such
12 medical care and [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations, as his
13 or her experience and training qualify him or her to render. The appli-
14 cant shall further agree to refrain from subsequently treating for
15 remuneration, as a private patient, any person seeking medical treat-
16 ment, or submitting to an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination,
17 in connection with, or as a result of, any injury compensable under this
18 chapter, if he or she has been removed from the list of physicians
19 authorized to render medical care or to conduct [independent] ADVER-
20 SARIAL medical examinations under this chapter, or if the person seeking
21 such treatment, or submitting to an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical
22 examination, has been transferred from his or her care in accordance
23 with the provisions of this chapter. This agreement shall run to the
24 benefit of the injured person so treated or examined, and shall be
25 available to him or her as a defense in any action by such physician for
26 payment for treatment rendered by a physician after he or she has been
27 removed from the list of physicians authorized to render medical care or
28 to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this
29 chapter, or after the injured person was transferred from his or her
30 care in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. The medical
31 society or the board designated by it, or the board as otherwise
32 provided under this section, if it deems such licensed physician duly
33 qualified, shall recommend to the chair that such physician be author-
34 ized to render medical care and/or conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL
35 medical examinations under this chapter, and such recommendation and
36 authorization shall specify the character of the medical care or [inde-
37 pendent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination which such physician is quali-
38 fied and authorized to render under this chapter. Such recommendations
39 shall be advisory to the chair only and shall not be binding or conclu-
40 sive upon him or her. The licensed physician may present to the medical
41 society or board, evidences of additional qualifications at any time
42 subsequent to his or her original application. If the medical society or
43 board fails to recommend to the chair that a physician be authorized to
44 render medical care and/or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical
45 examinations under this chapter, the physician may appeal to the medical
46 appeals unit. The medical society or the board designated by it, or the
47 board as otherwise provided under this section, may upon its own initi-
48 ative, or shall upon request of the chair, review at any time the quali-
49 fications of any physician as to the character of the medical care or
50 [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations which such physician has
51 theretofore been authorized to render under this chapter and may recom-
52 mend to the chair that such physician be authorized to render medical
53 care or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations there-
54 after of the character which such physician is then qualified to render.
55 On such advisory recommendation the chair may review and after reason-
56 able investigation may revise the authorization of a physician in

1 respect to the character of medical care and/or to conduct [independent]
2 ADVERSARIAL medical examinations which he or she is authorized to
3 render. If the medical society or board recommends to the chair that a
4 physician be authorized to render medical care and/or to conduct [inde-
5 pendent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this chapter of a char-
6 acter different from the character of medical care or [independent]
7 ADVERSARIAL medical examinations he or she has been theretofore author-
8 ized to render, such physician may appeal from such recommendation to
9 the medical appeals unit.

10 S 7. The section heading and the opening paragraph and paragraphs (b)
11 and (g) of subdivision 2 of section 13-d of the workers' compensation
12 law, the section heading, the opening paragraph and paragraph (g) of
13 subdivision 2, as amended by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000, paragraph
14 (b) of subdivision 2, as amended by chapter 6 of the laws of 2007, are
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Removal of physicians from lists of those authorized to render medical
17 care or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations.

18 The chair shall remove from the list of physicians authorized to
19 render medical care under this chapter, or to conduct [independent]
20 ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in accordance with paragraph (b) of
21 subdivision four of section thirteen-a of this article, the name of any
22 physician who he or she shall find after reasonable investigation is
23 disqualified because such physician:

24 (b) has exceeded the limits of his or her professional competence in
25 rendering medical care or in conducting [independent] ADVERSARIAL
26 medical examinations under the law, or has made materially false state-
27 ments regarding his or her qualifications in his or her application for
28 the recommendation of the medical society or board as provided in
29 section thirteen-b of this article; or

30 (g) has directly or indirectly requested, received or participated in
31 the division, transference, assignment, rebating, splitting or refunding
32 of a fee for, or has directly or indirectly requested, received or prof-
33 ited by means of a credit or other valuable consideration as a commis-
34 sion, discount or gratuity in connection with the furnishing of medical
35 or surgical care, an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination,
36 diagnosis or treatment or service, including X-ray examination and
37 treatment, or for or in connection with the sale, rental, supplying or
38 furnishing of clinical laboratory services or supplies, X-ray laboratory
39 services or supplies, inhalation therapy service or equipment, ambulance
40 service, hospital or medical supplies, physiotherapy or other therapeu-
41 tic service or equipment, artificial limbs, teeth or eyes, orthopedic or
42 surgical appliances or supplies, optical appliances, supplies or equip-
43 ment, devices for aid of hearing, drugs, medication or medical supplies,
44 or any other goods, services or supplies prescribed for medical diagno-
45 sis, care or treatment, under this chapter; except that reasonable
46 payment, not exceeding the technical component fee permitted in the
47 medical fee schedule, established under this chapter for X-ray examina-
48 tions, diagnosis or treatment, may be made by a physician duly author-
49 ized as a roentgenologist to any hospital furnishing facilities and
50 equipment for such examination, diagnosis or treatment, provided such
51 hospital does not also submit a charge for the same services. Nothing
52 contained in this paragraph shall prohibit such physicians who practice
53 as partners, in groups or as a professional corporation or as a univer-
54 sity faculty practice corporation from pooling fees and moneys received,
55 either by the partnership, professional corporation, university faculty
56 practice corporation or group by the individual members thereof, for

professional services furnished by any individual professional member, or employee of such partnership, corporation or group, nor shall the professionals constituting the partnerships, corporations, or groups be prohibited from sharing, dividing or apportioning the fees and moneys received by them or by the partnership, corporation or group in accordance with a partnership or other agreement.

S 8. Subdivisions 2 and 3, and the opening paragraph and paragraph (g) of subdivision 10 of section 13-k of the workers' compensation law, as amended by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000, are amended to read as follows:

2. An employee injured under circumstances which make such injury compensable under this article, when care is required for an injury to the foot which injury or resultant condition therefrom may lawfully be treated by a duly registered and licensed podiatrist of the state of New York, may select to treat him or her any podiatrist authorized by the chair to render podiatry care, as hereinafter provided. If the injury or condition is one which is without the limits prescribed by the education law for podiatry care and treatment, or the injuries involved affect other parts of the body in addition to the foot, the said podiatrist must so advise the said injured employee and instruct him or her to consult a physician of said employee's choice for appropriate care and treatment. Such physician shall thenceforth have overall supervision of the treatment of said patient including the future treatment to be administered to the patient by the podiatrist. If for any reason during the period when podiatry treatment and care is required, the employee wishes to transfer his or her treatment and care to another authorized podiatrist he or she may do so, in accordance with rules prescribed by the chair, provided however that the employer shall be liable for the proper fees of the original podiatrist for the care and treatment he or she shall have rendered. A podiatrist licensed and registered to practice podiatry in the state of New York who is desirous of being authorized to render podiatry care under this section and/or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in accordance with paragraph (b) of subdivision three of this section shall file an application for authorization under this section with the podiatry practice committee. In such application he or she shall agree to refrain from subsequently treating for remuneration, as a private patient, any person seeking podiatry treatment, or submitting to an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination, in connection with, or as a result of, any injury compensable under this chapter, if he or she has been removed from the list of podiatrists authorized to render podiatry care or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this chapter, or if the person seeking such treatment has been transferred from his or her care in accordance with the provisions of this section. This agreement shall run to the benefit of the injured person so treated or examined, and shall be available to him or her as a defense in any action by such podiatrist for payment for treatment rendered by a podiatrist after he or she has been removed from the list of podiatrists authorized to render podiatry care or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this section, or after the injured person was transferred from his or her care in accordance with the provisions of this section. The podiatry practice committee if it deems such licensed podiatrist duly qualified shall recommend to the chair that such podiatrist be authorized to render podiatry care and/or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this section. Such recommendation shall be advisory to the chair only and shall not be binding or

1 conclusive upon him or her. The chair shall prepare and establish a
2 schedule for the state, or schedules limited to defined localities, of
3 charges and fees for podiatry treatment and care, to be determined in
4 accordance with and to be subject to change pursuant to rules promulgat-
5 ed by the chair. Before preparing such schedule for the state or sched-
6 ules for limited localities the chair shall request the podiatry prac-
7 tice committee to submit to him or her a report on the amount of
8 remuneration deemed by such committee to be fair and adequate for the
9 types of podiatry care to be rendered under this chapter, but consider-
10 ation shall be given to the view of other interested parties. The
11 amounts payable by the employer for such treatment and services shall be
12 the fees and charges established by such schedule.

13 3. (a) No claim for podiatry care or treatment shall be valid and
14 enforceable as against the employer or employee unless within forty-
15 eight hours following the first treatment the podiatrist giving such
16 care or treatment furnish to the employer and directly to the chair a
17 preliminary notice of such injury and treatment, within fifteen days
18 thereafter a more complete report and subsequent thereto progress
19 reports as requested in writing by the chair, board, employer or insur-
20 ance carrier, at intervals of not less than three weeks apart or at less
21 frequent intervals if requested on forms prescribed by the chair. The
22 board may excuse the failure to give such notices within the designated
23 periods when it finds it to be in the interest of justice to do so.

24 (b) Upon receipt of the notice provided for by paragraph (a) of this
25 subdivision, the employer, the carrier and the claimant each shall be
26 entitled to have the claimant examined by a qualified podiatrist author-
27 ized by the chair in accordance with subdivision two of this section and
28 section one hundred thirty-seven of this chapter, at a medical facility
29 convenient to the claimant and in the presence of the claimant's podia-
30 trist, and refusal by the claimant to submit to such [independent]
31 ADVERSARIAL medical examination at such time or times as may reasonably
32 be necessary in the opinion of the board shall bar the claimant from
33 recovering compensation for any period during which he or she has
34 refused to submit to such examination.

35 (c) Where it would place an unreasonable burden upon the employer or
36 carrier to arrange for, or for the claimant to attend, an [independent]
37 ADVERSARIAL medical examination by an authorized podiatrist, the employ-
38 er or carrier shall arrange for such examination to be performed by a
39 qualified podiatrist in a medical facility convenient to the claimant.

40 (d) The [independent] ADVERSARIAL podiatric examiner shall provide
41 such reports and shall submit to investigation as required by the chair.

42 (e) In order to qualify as admissible medical evidence, for purposes
43 of adjudicating any claim under this chapter, any report submitted to
44 the board by an [independent] ADVERSARIAL podiatric examiner licensed by
45 the state of New York shall include the following:

46 (i) a signed statement certifying that the report is a full and truth-
47 ful representation of the [independent] ADVERSARIAL podiatric examiner's
48 professional opinion with respect to the claimant's condition,

49 (ii) such examiner's board issued authorization number,

50 (iii) the name of the individual or entity requesting the examination,

51 (iv) if applicable, the registration number as required by section
52 thirteen-n of this article, and

53 (v) such other information as the chair may require by regulation.

54 The podiatry practice committee shall investigate, hear and make find-
55 ings with respect to all charges as to professional or other misconduct
56 of any authorized podiatrist as herein provided under rules and proce-

1 dures to be prescribed by the chair and shall report evidence of such
2 misconduct, with their findings and recommendation with respect thereto,
3 to the chair. The findings, decision and recommendation of such podiatry
4 practice committee shall be advisory to the chair only, and shall not be
5 binding or conclusive upon him or her. The chair shall remove from the
6 list of podiatrists authorized to render podiatry care under this chap-
7 ter or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in
8 accordance with paragraph (b) of subdivision three of this section the
9 name of any podiatrist who he or she shall find after reasonable inves-
10 tigation is disqualified because such podiatrist

11 (g) has directly or indirectly requested, received or participated in
12 the division, transference, assignment, rebating, splitting or refunding
13 of a fee for, or has directly or indirectly requested, received or prof-
14 ited by means of a credit or other valuable consideration as a commis-
15 sion, discount or gratuity in connection with the treatment, or [inde-
16 pendent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination, of a workers' compensation
17 claimant. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prohibit such
18 podiatrists who practice as partners, in groups or as a professional
19 corporation from pooling fees and moneys received, either by the part-
20 nership, professional corporation or group by the individual members
21 thereof, for professional services furnished by any individual profes-
22 sional member, or employee of such partnership, corporation or group,
23 nor shall the professionals constituting the partnership, corporation,
24 or group be prohibited from sharing, dividing or apportioning the fees
25 and moneys received by them or by the partnership, corporation or group
26 in accordance with a partnership or other agreement.

27 S 9. Subdivisions 2 and 3, and the opening paragraph and paragraph (g)
28 of subdivision 10 of section 13-1 of the workers' compensation law, as
29 amended by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000, are amended to read as
30 follows:

31 2. An employee injured under circumstances which make such injury
32 compensable under this article, when care is required for an injury
33 which consists solely of a condition which may lawfully be treated by a
34 chiropractor as defined in section sixty-five hundred fifty-one of the
35 education law may select to treat him or her, any duly registered and
36 licensed chiropractor of the state of New York, authorized by the chair
37 to render chiropractic care as hereinafter provided. If the injury or
38 condition is one which is outside the limits prescribed by the education
39 law for chiropractic care and treatment, the said chiropractor must so
40 advise the said injured employee and instruct him or her to consult a
41 physician of said employee's choice for appropriate care and treatment.
42 Such physician shall thenceforth have supervision of the treatment of
43 said condition including the future treatment to be administered to the
44 patient by the chiropractor. A chiropractor licensed and registered to
45 practice chiropractic in the state of New York, who is desirous of being
46 authorized to render chiropractic care under this section and/or to
47 conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in accordance
48 with paragraph (b) of subdivision three of this section shall file an
49 application for authorization under this section with the chiropractic
50 practice committee. In such application he or she shall agree to refrain
51 from subsequently treating for remuneration, as a private patient, any
52 person seeking chiropractic treatment, or submitting to an [independent]
53 ADVERSARIAL medical examination, in connection with, or as a result of,
54 any injury compensable under this chapter, if he or she has been removed
55 from the list of chiropractors authorized to render chiropractic care or
56 to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this

1 chapter, or if the person seeking such treatment has been transferred
2 from his or her care in accordance with the provisions of this section.
3 This agreement shall run to the benefit of the injured person so treat-
4 ed, or examined, and shall be available to him or her as a defense in
5 any action by such chiropractor for payment rendered by a chiropractor
6 after he or she has been removed from the list of chiropractors author-
7 ized to render chiropractic care or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL
8 medical examinations under this section, or after the injured person was
9 transferred from his or her care in accordance with the provisions of
10 this section. The chiropractic practice committee if it deems such
11 licensed chiropractor duly qualified shall recommend to the chair that
12 such be authorized to render chiropractic care and/or to conduct [inde-
13 pendent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this section. Such
14 recommendations shall be advisory to the chair only and shall not be
15 binding or conclusive upon him or her. The chair shall prepare and
16 establish a schedule for the state, or schedules limited to defined
17 localities of charges and fees for chiropractic treatment and care, to
18 be determined in accordance with and to be subject to change pursuant to
19 rules promulgated by the chair. Before preparing such schedule for the
20 state or schedules for limited localities the chair shall request the
21 chiropractic practice committee to submit to him or her a report on the
22 amount of remuneration deemed by such committee to be fair and adequate
23 for the types of chiropractic care to be rendered under this chapter,
24 but consideration shall be given to the view of other interested
25 parties, the amounts payable by the employer for such treatment and
26 services shall be the fees and charges established by such schedule.

27 3. (a) No claim for chiropractic care or treatment shall be valid and
28 enforceable as against the employer or employees unless within forty-
29 eight hours following the first treatment the chiropractor giving such
30 care or treatment furnishes to the employer and directly to the chair a
31 preliminary notice of such injury and treatment, and within fifteen days
32 thereafter a more complete report and subsequent thereto progress
33 reports as requested in writing by the chair, board, employer or insur-
34 ance carrier, at intervals of not less than three weeks apart or at less
35 frequent intervals if requested on forms prescribed by the chair. The
36 board may excuse the failure to give such notices within the designated
37 periods when it finds it to be in the interest of justice to do so.

38 (b) Upon receipt of the notice provided for by paragraph (a) of this
39 subdivision, the employer, the carrier, and the claimant each shall be
40 entitled to have the claimant examined by a qualified chiropractor
41 authorized by the chair in accordance with subdivision two of this
42 section and section one hundred thirty-seven of this chapter at a
43 medical facility convenient to the claimant and in the presence of the
44 claimant's chiropractor, and refusal by the claimant to submit to such
45 [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination at such time or times as
46 may reasonably be necessary in the opinion of the board shall bar the
47 claimant from recovering compensation, for any period during which he or
48 she has refused to submit to such examination.

49 (c) Where it would place an unreasonable burden upon the employer or
50 carrier to arrange for, or for the claimant to attend, an [independent]
51 ADVERSARIAL medical examination by an authorized chiropractor, the
52 employer or carrier shall arrange for such examination to be performed
53 by a qualified chiropractor in a medical facility convenient to the
54 claimant.

55 (d) The [independent] ADVERSARIAL chiropractic examiner shall provide
56 such reports and shall submit to investigation as required by the chair.

(e) In order to qualify as admissible chiropractic evidence, for purposes of adjudicating any claim under this chapter, any report submitted to the board by an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examiner licensed by the state of New York shall include the following:

(i) a signed statement certifying that the report is a full and truthful representation of the [independent] ADVERSARIAL chiropractic examiner's professional opinion with respect to the claimant's condition,

(ii) such examiner's board issued authorization number,

(iii) the name of the individual or entity requesting the examination,

(iv) if applicable, the registration number as required by section thirteen-n of this article, and

(v) such other information as the chair may require by regulation.

The chiropractic practice committee shall investigate, hear and make findings with respect to all charges as to professional or other misconduct of any authorized chiropractor as herein provided under rules and procedure to be prescribed by the chair and shall report evidence of such misconduct, with their findings and recommendations with respect thereto, to the chair. The findings, decision and recommendation of such chiropractic practice committee shall be advisory to the chair only, and shall not be binding or conclusive upon him or her. The chair shall remove from the list of chiropractors authorized to render chiropractic care under this chapter or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in accordance with paragraph (b) of subdivision three of this section the name of any chiropractor who he or she shall find after reasonable investigation is disqualified because such chiropractor,

(g) has directly or indirectly requested, received or participated in the division, transference, assignment, rebating, splitting or refunding of a fee for, or has directly or indirectly requested, received or profited by means of a credit or otherwise valuable consideration as a commission, discount or gratuity, in connection with the treatment, or [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination, of a workers' compensation claimant. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prohibit such chiropractors who practice as partners, in groups or as a professional corporation, or as a university faculty practice corporation from pooling fees and moneys received, either by the partnership, professional corporation, university faculty practice corporation or group by the individual members thereof, for professional services furnished by any individual professional member, or employee of such partnership, corporation or group, nor shall the professionals constituting the partnership, corporation, or group be prohibited from sharing, dividing or apportioning the fees and moneys received by them or by the partnership, corporation or group in accordance with a partnership or other agreement.

S 10. Subdivisions 3 and 4 and the opening paragraph of subdivision 11 of section 13-m of the workers' compensation law, as amended by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000, are amended to read as follows:

3. A psychologist, licensed and registered to practice psychology in the state of New York, who is desirous of being authorized to render psychological care under this section and/or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in accordance with paragraph (b) of subdivision four of this section shall file an application for authorization under this section with the psychology practice committee. The applicant shall agree to refrain from subsequently treating for remuneration, as a private patient, any person seeking psychological treatment, or submitting to an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination, in connection with, or as a result of, any injury compensable under this

chapter, if he or she has been removed from the list of psychologists authorized to render psychological care under this chapter. This agreement shall run to the benefit of the injured person so treated, and shall be available as a defense in any action by such psychologist for payment for treatment rendered by such psychologist after being removed from the list of psychologists authorized to render psychological care or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this section. The psychology practice committee if it deems such licensed psychologist duly qualified shall recommend to the chair that such person be authorized to render psychological care and/or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations under this section. Such recommendations shall be only advisory to the chair and shall not be binding or conclusive. The chair shall prepare and establish a schedule for the state or schedules limited to defined localities of charges and fees for psychological treatment and care, to be determined in accordance with and be subject to change pursuant to rules promulgated by the chair. Before preparing such schedule for the state or schedules for limited localities the chair shall request the psychology practice committee to submit to such chair a report on the amount of remuneration deemed by such committee to be fair and adequate for the types of psychological care to be rendered under this chapter, but consideration shall be given to the view of other interested parties. The amounts payable by the employer for such treatment and services shall be the fees and charges established by such schedule.

4. (a) No claim for psychological care or treatment shall be valid and enforceable as against the employer or employees unless within forty-eight hours following the first treatment the psychologist giving such care or treatment furnishes to the employer and directly to the chair a preliminary notice of such injury and treatment, and within fifteen days thereafter a more complete report and subsequent thereto progress reports as requested in writing by the chair, board, employer or insurance carrier, at intervals of not less than three weeks apart or at less frequent intervals if requested on forms prescribed by the chair. The board may excuse the failure to give such notices within the designated periods when it finds it to be in the interest of justice to do so.

(b) Upon receipt of the notice provided for by paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the employer, the carrier, and the claimant each shall be entitled to have the claimant examined by a qualified psychologist, authorized by the chair in accordance with subdivision three of this section and section one hundred thirty-seven of this chapter, at a medical facility convenient to the claimant and in the presence of the claimant's psychologist, and refusal by the claimant to submit to such [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination at such time or times as may reasonably be necessary in the opinion of the board shall bar the claimant from recovering compensation, for any period during which he or she has refused to submit to such examination.

(c) Where it would place an unreasonable burden upon the employer or carrier to arrange for, or for the claimant to attend, an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination by an authorized psychologist, the employer or carrier shall arrange for such examination to be performed by a qualified psychologist in a medical facility convenient to the claimant.

(d) The [independent] ADVERSARIAL psychological examiner licensed by the state of New York shall provide such reports and shall submit to investigation as required by the chair.

(e) In order to qualify as admissible medical evidence, for purposes of adjudicating any claim under this chapter, any report submitted to the board by an [independent] ADVERSARIAL psychological examiner licensed by the state of New York shall include the following:

(i) a signed statement certifying that the report is a full and truthful representation of the [independent] ADVERSARIAL psychological examiner's professional opinion with respect to the claimant's condition,

(ii) such examiner's board issued authorization number,

(iii) the name of the individual or entity requesting the examination,

(iv) if applicable, the registration number as required by section thirteen-n of this article, and

(v) such other information as the chair may require by regulation.

The psychology practice committee shall investigate, hear and make findings with respect to all charges as to professional or other misconduct of any authorized psychologist as herein provided under rules and procedures to be prescribed by the chair and shall report evidence of such misconduct, with their findings and recommendations with respect thereto, to the chair. The findings, decision and recommendation of such psychology practice committee shall be advisory to the chair only, and shall not be binding or conclusive upon him or her. The chair shall remove from the list of psychologists authorized to render psychological care under this chapter or to conduct [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations in accordance with paragraph (b) of subdivision four of this section the name of any psychologist who he or she shall find after reasonable investigation is disqualified because such psychologist:

S 11. Section 13-n of the workers' compensation law, as added by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000 and subdivision 3 as added by chapter 6 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

S 13-n. Mandatory registration of entities which derive income from [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations. 1. Any entity which derives income from [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations performed in accordance with subdivision four of section thirteen-a, subdivision three of section thirteen-k, subdivision three of section thirteen-l and subdivision four of section thirteen-m of this article, whether by employing or contracting with [independent] ADVERSARIAL examiners to conduct such [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations or by acting as a referral service or otherwise facilitating such examinations, shall register with the chair by filing a statement of registration containing such information prescribed by the chair in regulation. A fee may be imposed in accordance with regulations promulgated by the chair. Any such fees collected shall be used for the purpose of administering this section.

2. The chair shall assign a registration number to the entity upon registration. If an entity operates under more than one name, or in more than one location, the chair may assign a series of registration numbers which would differentiate each such sub-entity. In order to qualify as admissible medical evidence, for purposes of adjudicating any claim under this chapter, any report submitted to the board by an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examiner who is employed by, or has contracted with, an entity as described in subdivision one of this section for the purpose of performing [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations, must include the registration number of such entity.

3. The chair, upon finding that an entity that derives income from [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations has materially altered an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination report, or caused such a report to be materially altered, may revoke the registration of such

entity, impose a penalty not exceeding ten thousand dollars and refer the matter to the attorney general for prosecution.

S 12. Section 137 of the workers' compensation law, as added by chapter 473 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

S 137. [Independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations. 1. (a) A copy of each report of [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination shall be submitted by the practitioner on the same day and in the same manner to the board, the insurance carrier, the claimant's attending physician or other attending practitioner, the claimant's representative and the claimant.

(b) If a practitioner who has performed or will be performing an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination of a claimant receives a request for information regarding the claimant, including faxed or electronically transmitted requests, the practitioner shall submit a copy of the request for information to the board within ten days of receipt of the request. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to abrogate the attorney-client privilege.

(c) Copies of all responses to such requests for information as are described in paragraph (b) of this subdivision, including all materials which are provided in response to such a request, shall be submitted by the responding practitioner to the board within ten days of submission of the response to the requestor. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to abrogate the attorney-client privilege.

2. In any open case where an award has been directed by the board for temporary or permanent disability at an established rate of compensation and there is a direction by the board for continuation of payments, or any closed case where an award for compensation has been made for permanent total or permanent partial disability, a report of an [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination shall not be the basis for suspending or reducing payments unless and until the rules and regulations of the board regarding suspending or reducing payments have been met and there is a determination by the board finding that such suspension or reduction is justified.

3. (a) Only a New York state licensed and board certified physician, surgeon, podiatrist or any other person authorized to examine or evaluate injury or illness by the board shall perform such [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination. Where a claimant resides out of state a practitioner qualified to examine or evaluate injury or illness by the board shall perform such [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination.

(b) Any practitioner performing the [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations shall be paid according to the fee schedule established pursuant to section thirteen of this chapter.

4. All [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations shall be performed in medical facilities suitable for such exam, with due regard and respect for the privacy and dignity of the injured worker as well as the access and safety of the claimant. Such facilities must be provided in a convenient and accessible location within a reasonable distance from the claimant's residence.

5. All [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations shall be performed by a practitioner competent to evaluate or examine the injury or disease from which the injured worker suffers. Such examination shall be performed by a practitioner who is licensed and board certified in the state of New York or any other person authorized to examine or evaluate injury or illness by the board.

6. No practitioner examining or evaluating a claimant under this chapter nor any supervising authority or proprietor nor insurance carrier or

1 employer may cause, direct or encourage a report to be submitted as
2 evidence in workers' compensation claim adjudication which differs
3 substantially from the professional opinion of the examining practition-
4 er. Such an action shall be considered within the jurisdiction of the
5 workers' compensation fraud inspector general and may be referred as a
6 fraudulent practice.

7 7. The claimant shall receive notice by mail of the scheduled [inde-
8 pendent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination at least seven business days
9 prior to such examination. Such notice shall advise the claimant if the
10 practitioner intends to record or video tape the examination, and shall
11 advise the claimant of their right to video tape or otherwise record the
12 examination. Claimants shall be advised of their right to be accompanied
13 during the exam by an individual or individuals of their choosing.

14 8. [Independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examinations shall be performed
15 during regular business hours except with the consent and for the
16 convenience of the claimant. Claimants subject to such examination shall
17 be notified at the time of the exam in writing of the available travel
18 reimbursement under law.

19 9. A practitioner is not eligible to perform an [independent] ADVER-
20 SARIAL medical examination of a claimant if the practitioner has treated
21 or examined the claimant for the condition for which the [independent]
22 ADVERSARIAL medical examination is being requested or if another member
23 of a preferred provider organization or managed care provider to which
24 the practitioner belongs has treated or examined the claimant for the
25 condition for which the [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination is
26 being requested.

27 10. The ability of a claimant to appear for an exam or hearing shall
28 not be dispositive in the determination of disability, extent of disa-
29 bility or eligibility for benefits.

30 11. At the time of the [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination
31 the claimant shall receive a notice from the entity performing the
32 [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination, on a form which shall be
33 approved and promulgated by the chair, stating the rights and obli-
34 gations of the claimant and the practitioner with respect to such exam,
35 and such notice shall include but not be limited to a statement that the
36 claimant's receipt of benefits could be denied, terminated, or reduced
37 as a result of a determination which may be based upon the medical eval-
38 uation made after such [independent] ADVERSARIAL medical examination,
39 and the claimant's rights to challenge or appeal such a determination.

40 S 13. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 3 of section 50-h of the general municipal
41 law, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 24 of the laws of 1988, subdi-
42 vision 2 as amended by chapter 254 of the laws of 1990 and subdivision 3
43 as added by chapter 393 of the laws of 1958, are amended to read as
44 follows:

45 1. Wherever a notice of claim is filed against a city, county, town,
46 village, fire district, ambulance district [or], school district OR
47 PUBLIC AUTHORITY the city, county, town, village, fire district, ambu-
48 lance district [or], school district OR PUBLIC AUTHORITY shall have the
49 right to demand an examination of the claimant relative to the occur-
50 rence and extent of the injuries or damages for which claim is made,
51 which examination shall be upon oral questions unless the parties other-
52 wise stipulate and may include [a physical] AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL exam-
53 ination of the claimant by a duly qualified physician. If the party to
54 be examined desires, he or she is entitled to have such examination in
55 the presence of his or her own personal physician and such relative or
56 other person as he or she may elect. THE PERSON SUBJECT TO THE ADVER-

1 ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE ANY DOCU-
2 MENTS OR SUPPLY ANY WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PUT TO HIM OR HER AT
3 SUCH ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION. Exercise of the right to demand a
4 physical examination of the claimant as provided in this section shall
5 in no way affect the right of a city, county, town, village, fire
6 district, ambulance district [or], school district OR PUBLIC AUTHORITY
7 in a subsequent action brought upon the claim to demand [a physical] AN
8 ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination of the plaintiff pursuant to statute or
9 court rule.

10 2. The demand for examination as provided in subdivision one of this
11 section shall be made by the chief executive officer or, where there is
12 no such officer, by the chairman of the governing body of the city,
13 county, town, village, fire district [or], school district OR PUBLIC
14 AUTHORITY or by such officer, agent or employee as may be designated by
15 him OR HER for that purpose. The demand shall be in writing and shall
16 be served personally or by registered or certified mail upon the claim-
17 ant unless the claimant is represented by an attorney, when it shall be
18 served personally or by mail upon his OR HER attorney. The demand shall
19 give reasonable notice of the examination. It shall state the person
20 before whom the examination is to be held, the time, place and subject
21 matter thereof and, if [a physical] AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination
22 is to be required, it shall so state. If the place of examination is
23 located outside the municipality against which the claim is made, the
24 claimant may demand, within ten days of such service, that the examina-
25 tion be held at a location within such municipality. Such location shall
26 be determined by the municipality. If [a physical] AN ADVERSARIAL
27 MEDICAL examination is to be required and there is no appropriate place
28 for such an examination within the municipality, such examination shall
29 be given at a location as close to such municipality as practicable. No
30 demand for examination shall be effective against the claimant for any
31 purpose unless it shall be served as provided in this subdivision within
32 ninety days from the date of filing of the notice of claim.

33 3. In any examination required pursuant to the provisions of this
34 section the claimant shall have the right to be represented by counsel.
35 The examination shall be conducted upon oath or affirmation. The officer
36 or person before whom the examination is had shall take down or cause to
37 be taken down every question and answer unless the parties consent that
38 only the substance of the testimony be inserted. The testimony so taken,
39 together with the report of the examining physician where [a physical]
40 AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination is required, shall constitute the
41 record of the examination. The transcript of the record of an examina-
42 tion shall not be subject to or available for public inspection, except
43 upon court order upon good cause shown, but shall be furnished to the
44 claimant or his OR HER attorney upon request.

45 S 14. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 3 of section 17-a of the court of claims
46 act, as added by chapter 189 of the laws of 1990, are amended to read as
47 follows:

48 1. Wherever a notice of intention to file a claim is served, the
49 defendant shall have the right to demand an examination of the claimant
50 relative to the occurrence and extent of the injuries or damages for
51 which claim is made, which examination shall be upon oral questions
52 unless the parties otherwise stipulate and may include [a physical] AN
53 ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination of the claimant by a duly qualified
54 physician. If the party to be examined desires, he or she is entitled to
55 have such [physical] AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination in the presence
56 of his or her own personal physician and such relative or other person

1 as he or she may elect. Exercise of the right to demand [a physical] AN
2 ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination of the claimant as provided in this
3 section shall in no way affect the right of a defendant in a subsequent
4 claim brought upon the notice of intention to file a claim to demand [a
5 physical] AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination of the claimant pursuant to
6 statute or court rule.

7 2. The demand for examination as provided in subdivision one of this
8 section shall be made by the attorney for the defendant or by such offi-
9 cer, agent or employee as may be designated by him for that purpose. The
10 demand shall be in writing and shall be served personally or by regis-
11 tered or certified mail upon the claimant unless the claimant is repres-
12 ented by an attorney, when it shall be served personally or by mail upon
13 his or her attorney. The demand shall give reasonable notice of the
14 examination. It shall state the person before whom the examination is to
15 be held, the time, place and subject matter thereof and, if [a physical]
16 AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination is to be required, it shall so state.
17 No demand for examination shall be effective against the claimant for
18 any purpose unless it shall be served as provided in this subdivision
19 within ninety days from the date of service of the notice of intention
20 to file a claim.

21 3. In any examination required pursuant to the provisions of this
22 section the claimant shall have the right to be represented by counsel.
23 The examination shall be conducted upon oath or affirmation. The officer
24 or person before whom the examination is held shall take down or cause
25 to be taken down every question and answer unless the parties consent
26 that only the substance of the testimony be inserted. The testimony so
27 taken, together with the report of the examining physician where [a
28 physical] AN ADVERSARIAL MEDICAL examination is required, shall consti-
29 tute the record of the examination. The transcript of the record of an
30 examination, including a copy of the report of the examining physician
31 shall not be subject to or available for public inspection, except upon
32 court order upon good cause shown, but shall be furnished to the claim-
33 ant or his or her attorney upon request.

34 S 15. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all
35 currently pending actions and proceedings, and to proceedings commenced
36 subsequent to such date.