



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5235**

February Session, 2022



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONTENT OF REPORTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLAIMS COMMISSIONER TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 4-158 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes  
2 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2022*):

4 (a) The Claims Commissioner may (1) order that a claim be denied or  
5 dismissed, (2) order immediate payment of a just claim in an amount  
6 not exceeding thirty-five thousand dollars, (3) recommend to the  
7 General Assembly payment of a just claim in an amount exceeding  
8 thirty-five thousand dollars, or (4) authorize a claimant to sue the state,  
9 as provided in section 4-160.

10 (b) Any person who has filed a claim for more than fifty thousand  
11 dollars may request the General Assembly to review a decision of the  
12 Claims Commissioner (1) ordering the denial or dismissal of the claim  
13 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, including  
14 denying or dismissing a claim that requests permission to sue the state,  
15 or (2) ordering immediate payment of a just claim in an amount not  
16 exceeding thirty-five thousand dollars pursuant to subdivision (2) of  
17 subsection (a) of this section. A person who has filed a claim that has

18 been denied or dismissed by a temporary deputy pursuant to subsection  
19 (d) of section 4-160, may request the General Assembly to review such  
20 denial or dismissal. A request for review shall be in writing and filed  
21 with the Office of the Claims Commissioner not later than twenty days  
22 after the date the person requesting such review receives a copy of the  
23 decision. The filing of a request for review shall automatically stay the  
24 decision of the Claims Commissioner or temporary deputy.

25 (c) The Office of the Claims Commissioner shall submit each claim  
26 for which a request for review is filed pursuant to this section to the  
27 General Assembly pursuant to section 4-159.

28 (d) If the Claims Commissioner orders immediate payment of a just  
29 claim in an amount not exceeding thirty-five thousand dollars pursuant  
30 to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section and a request for  
31 review is not timely filed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the  
32 Office of the Claims Commissioner shall deliver to the Comptroller a  
33 certified copy of the Claims Commissioner's order and the Comptroller  
34 shall make payment from such appropriation as the General Assembly  
35 may have made for the payment of claims or, in the case of contractual  
36 claims for goods or services furnished or for property leased, from the  
37 appropriation of the agency which received such goods or services or  
38 occupied such property.

39 (e) Whenever the Claims Commissioner deems it just and equitable,  
40 the Claims Commissioner may, at any time prior to the submission of a  
41 claim to the General Assembly pursuant to subsection (a) of section 4-  
42 159, vacate the decision made pursuant to subsection (a) of this section  
43 and undertake such further proceedings in accordance with this chapter  
44 as the Claims Commissioner may, in his or her discretion, deem  
45 appropriate.

46 (f) Not later than five days after the convening of each regular session,  
47 the Office of the Claims Commissioner shall report to the General  
48 Assembly on all claims decided pursuant to this section during the  
49 preceding calendar year. Such report shall include, but not be limited to,

50 the following information for the preceding calendar year: (1) The total  
51 number of new claims filed; (2) the total number of claims disposed of;  
52 (3) the total number of claims that were dismissed; (4) the total number  
53 of claims that were denied; (5) a description of each order of immediate  
54 payment of a just claim in an amount not exceeding thirty-five thousand  
55 dollars, which description shall minimally include, the name of the  
56 claimant, the amount paid to the claimant and the reasoning for the  
57 payment to the claimant; and (6) the total number of claimants who  
58 were authorized to sue the state.

59 Sec. 2. Section 4-159a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
60 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

61 (a) (1) Not later than five days after the convening of each regular  
62 session, the [Office of the] Claims Commissioner shall report to the  
63 General Assembly on all claims that have been filed with the Office of  
64 the Claims Commissioner pursuant to section 4-147 and have not been  
65 disposed of by the Office of the Claims Commissioner within two years  
66 of the date of filing or within any extension thereof granted by the  
67 General Assembly pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, except  
68 claims in which the parties have stipulated to an extension of time for  
69 the Office of the Claims Commissioner to dispose of the claim. (2) The  
70 report submitted by the Claims Commissioner pursuant to subdivision  
71 (1) of this subsection shall minimally include (A) an explanation as to  
72 why the claim has not been disposed of, and (B) the date by which a  
73 decision will be rendered on the claim in the event the General  
74 Assembly were to grant the Office of the Claims Commissioner an  
75 extension of time to dispose of the claim.

76 (b) The Office of the Claims Commissioner shall give notice to all  
77 claimants whose claims are the subject of a report as provided in  
78 subsection (a) of this section that their claims will be considered at the  
79 next regular session of the General Assembly pursuant to subsection (c)  
80 of this section.

81 (c) With respect to any claim that is the subject of a report as provided

82 in subsection (a) of this section, the General Assembly may (1) grant the  
83 Office of the Claims Commissioner an extension for a period specified  
84 by the General Assembly to dispose of such claim, (2) grant the claimant  
85 permission to sue the state, (3) grant an award to the claimant, or (4)  
86 deny the claim.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	4-158
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	4-159a

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*