



MICHIGAN CATASTROPHIC CLAIMS ASSOCIATION

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MCCA Premium Assessment Set For 2008-09

Livonia, MI – The Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) decreased its assessment to insurance companies by \$18.57 to \$104.58 per insured vehicle effective July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009 following its annual actuarial evaluation. A decrease in projected medical cost inflation and an increase in projected investment returns were the primary reasons for the assessment decrease. The current MCCA assessment is \$123.15.

Michigan is the only state in the nation that offers unlimited lifetime medical benefits for people injured in auto accidents. It is estimated that over 1,100 Michigan insureds will be catastrophically injured in auto accidents next year. Estimating the projected claim payments for long-term claims in which medical benefits are unlimited is complicated due to the difficulty in predicting life expectancies, medical cost inflation, investment returns, and the number of claims.

The \$104.58 assessment represents \$96.06 to cover claims, \$8.32 to recoup part of the \$555 million estimated deficit and \$0.20 for administrative expenses. The deficit represents \$79.41 per insured car.

The MCCA paid out \$692 million in 2007 for claim costs resulting from catastrophic injuries. The majority of these catastrophic injuries involve closed-head injuries, paraplegia, quadriplegia and burns. Since 1979, there have been over 21,900 claims reported to the MCCA, which will cost an estimated \$66 billion.

The MCCA was created by state law in 1978. All insurance companies that write auto insurance in Michigan are required to be members. The MCCA reimburses members for Personal Injury Protection claims that have exceeded \$440,000. That amount increases gradually each year.