



PA 21-18—SB 907

Labor and Public Employees Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

SUMMARY: This act makes various minor and technical changes in the workers' compensation statutes. It:

1. retitles the workers' compensation commissioners as "administrative law judges" in state statutes and in any public acts from the 2021 legislative session (§ 1);
2. reduces the frequency with which the workers' compensation commission's advisory board must meet from twice to once each quarter (among other things, the board helps evaluate the performance of the administrative law judges and advises on the physicians available to examine injured workers (§ 2);
3. eliminates a requirement that the commission's statistical division be administered by a full-time, salaried director appointed by the Workers' Compensation Commission's chairperson (§ 3);
4. eliminates a requirement that the audio recordings of formal hearings provided to parties be on cassette (§ 4);
5. eliminates obsolete provisions about (a) the transfer of certain cases to the Second Injury Fund (which has not been allowed since 1995) (§§ 5-7); (b) a medical panel of occupational lung disease physicians (which has not met since the 1980s) (§ 8); and (c) the destruction of old workers' compensation agreements filed in Superior Court (which has been obsolete since the creation of the Compensation Review Division in 1980 and the subsequent Compensation Review Board) (§ 8);
6. eliminates a provision that placed the Workers' Compensation Commission within the Department of Labor for administrative purposes only (§ 8); and
7. makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021