

Worker Compensation Administration; Child Support Enforcement; HB 2617

HB 2617 grants the Director of Workers Compensation the option to contract for the Medical Administrator position established by continuing law rather than appoint one. The bill allows workers compensation claims to be filed electronically, pursuant to administrative rules and regulations implemented by the Director. Upon implementation of an electronic filing system, if a filing deadline fell on a weekend or legal holiday, the bill extends the deadline to the next accessible day. The electronic filing system satisfies the signature requirements of documents filed.

The bill also broadens an exception to the open records exemptions, allowing federal or state governmental agencies access to medical records and accident reports for the purpose of child support enforcement, provided the disclosure would not be open for public inspection. Under prior law, governmental agencies had access to this information solely for fraud and abuse investigations.