

By: Brimer

S.B. No. 471

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to certain information reporting requirements regarding workers' compensation claims.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subsections (a), (b), and (c), Section 2053.151, Insurance Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The commissioner by rule shall prescribe the ~~[following]~~ information that must be reported on each workers' compensation claim~~[-~~

~~[(1) the hazard classification of the affected employee;~~

~~[(2) the date of injury;~~

~~[(3) the social security number of the claimant;~~

~~[(4) the severity classification of the claim, including separate classifications for:~~

~~[(A) claims in which death benefits are paid;~~

~~[(B) claims in which lifetime income benefits are paid;~~

~~[(C) claims in which only temporary income benefits are paid;~~

~~[(D) claims in which impairment income benefits are paid;~~

~~[(E) claims in which supplemental income benefits are paid; and~~

1                    [~~(F) claims in which only medical benefits are~~  
2 ~~paid,~~  
3                    [~~(5) the amount paid in periodic payments,~~  
4                    [~~(6) the amount paid in lump-sum payments,~~  
5                    [~~(7) the amount paid for:~~  
6                           [~~(A) temporary income benefits,~~  
7                           [~~(B) impairment income benefits,~~  
8                           [~~(C) supplemental income benefits, and~~  
9                           [~~(D) death and burial benefits,~~  
10                    [~~(8) the total amount paid for:~~  
11                           [~~(A) income, death, or burial benefits, and~~  
12                           [~~(B) medical benefits,~~  
13                    [~~(9) the total amount of incurred losses for:~~  
14                           [~~(A) income, death, or burial benefits, and~~  
15                           [~~(B) medical benefits,~~  
16                    [~~(10) the amount paid to:~~  
17                           [~~(A) doctors and other health care providers, and~~  
18                           [~~(B) hospitals and other health care facilities,~~  
19 ~~and~~  
20                    [~~(11) other information required by the~~  
21 ~~commissioner].~~

22                    (b) For purposes of Subsection (a), the commissioner shall  
23 establish standards and procedures for categorizing insurance and  
24 medical benefits required to be reported on each workers'  
25 compensation claim[~~. In establishing the standards, the~~  
26 ~~commissioner shall consult with the Texas Workers' Compensation~~  
27 ~~Commission~~] to ensure that the data collection methodology will

1 yield data necessary for research and medical cost containment  
2 efforts.

3 (c) The commissioner by rule shall establish reporting  
4 requirements for insurance companies regarding workers'  
5 compensation claims [~~may allow the information required by~~  
6 ~~Subsection (a) to be reported in the aggregate for each risk for~~  
7 ~~claims in which benefit payments are less than \$5,000~~]. The  
8 commissioner may reduce or eliminate reporting requirements for  
9 insurance companies whose workers' compensation insurance business  
10 falls below a specific minimum premium volume established by the  
11 commissioner by rule [~~adjust the \$5,000 threshold for aggregate~~  
12 ~~reporting to account for inflationary changes~~].

13 SECTION 2. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails  
14 over another Act of the 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007,  
15 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted  
16 codes.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.