

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1497

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the eligibility requirements for employment as an  
3 ombudsman of the Office of Injured Employee Counsel under the Texas  
4 Workers' Compensation Act.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 404.152(b), Labor Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (b) To be eligible for designation as an ombudsman, a person  
9 must:

10 (1) demonstrate satisfactory knowledge of the  
11 requirements of:

12 (A) this subtitle and the provisions of Subtitle  
13 C that relate to claims management;

14 (B) other laws relating to workers'  
15 compensation; and

16 (C) rules adopted under this subtitle and the  
17 laws described under Subdivision (1)(B);

18 (2) have demonstrated experience in handling and  
19 resolving problems for the general public; and

20 (3) possess strong interpersonal skills[~~and~~  
21 ~~[(4) have at least one year of demonstrated experience~~  
22 ~~in the field of workers' compensation]~~].

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

S.B. No. 1497

1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.