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By:  Alvarado S.B. No. 716

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the definition of post-traumatic stress disorder under the workers' compensation system.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 401.011, Labor Code, is amended by amending Subdivision (35-a) and adding Subdivision (35-b) to read as follows:

(35-a)  "Post-traumatic stress disorder" means a disorder that meets the diagnostic criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder specified by the American Psychiatric Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th edition, or a later edition adopted by the commissioner.

(35-b)  "Prosthetic device" means an artificial device designed to replace, wholly or partly, an arm or leg.

SECTION 2.  Section 504.019(a)(2), Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:

(2)  "Post-traumatic stress disorder" has the meaning assigned by Section 401.011 [~~means a disorder that meets the diagnostic criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder specified by the American Psychiatric Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fifth edition, or a later edition adopted by the commissioner of workers' compensation~~].

SECTION 3.  The change in law made by this Act applies only to a claim for workers' compensation benefits based on a compensable injury that occurs on or after the effective date of this Act. A claim based on a compensable injury that occurs before that date is governed by the law as it existed on the date the compensable injury occurred, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.