

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

1 compensable injury that occurs on or after the effective date of
2 this Act. A claim based on a compensable injury that occurs before
3 that date is governed by the law as it existed on the date the
4 compensable injury occurred, and the former law is continued in
5 effect for that purpose.

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