

1-1 By: Bell of Kaufman, et al. H.B. No. 2488
1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Alvarado)
1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 23, 2025;
1-4 April 24, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-5 Business & Commerce; May 26, 2025, reported favorably by the
1-6 following vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0; May 26, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Schwertner	X		
1-10	King	X		
1-11	Blanco	X		
1-12	Campbell	X		
1-13	Creighton	X		
1-14	Johnson	X		
1-15	Kolkhorst	X		
1-16	Menéndez	X		
1-17	Middleton	X		
1-18	Nichols	X		
1-19	Zaffirini	X		

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-21 AN ACT

1-22 relating to conducting certain contested case hearings under the
1-23 Texas workers' compensation system by remote communication.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 410, Labor Code, is
1-26 amended by adding Section 410.0055 to read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 410.0055. CONDUCTING CERTAIN CONTESTED CASE HEARINGS
1-28 BY REMOTE COMMUNICATION. (a) Notwithstanding Section 410.005(a),
1-29 the division may conduct a contested case hearing by
1-30 videoconference:

1-31 (1) on a determination by the division that good cause
1-32 exists for conducting the hearing in that manner; or

1-33 (2) on the mutual agreement of the parties.

1-34 (b) The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to
1-35 implement this section.

1-36 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
1-37 of this Act, the commissioner of workers' compensation shall adopt
1-38 rules to implement Section 410.0055, Labor Code, as added by this
1-39 Act.

1-40 SECTION 3. Section 410.0055, Labor Code, as added by this
1-41 Act, applies to a contested case hearing requested on or after the
1-42 effective date of this Act. A contested case hearing requested
1-43 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in
1-44 effect on the date the contested case hearing was requested, and the
1-45 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-46 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-47 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-48 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-49 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-50 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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