

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 206 131st General Assembly

(As Introduced)

Reps. Henne, Butler, Hambley, Hood, Sprague, Terhar, Maag

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Industrial Commission to keep statistics on specified information regarding individual hearing decisions issued by the Commission, staff hearing officers, and district hearing officers.
- Requires the Industrial Commission to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual report containing the required statistics.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Introduction

The bill imposes additional record keeping requirements on the Industrial Commission, the body that adjudicates contested workers' compensation claims. Under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law, Industrial Commission appeals generally go through the following steps prior to an appeal being filed with a court:

(1) A district hearing officer (DHO) first hears the contested claim or appeal and issues a decision;

(2) A party appeals the DHO's decision to a staff hearing officer (SHO) who issues a decision;

(3) A party appeals the SHO's decision to the Industrial Commission.¹

¹ R.C. 4123.511, not in the bill.

Statistics

The bill requires the Industrial Commission to keep statistics on individual hearing decisions issued by the Commission, DHOs, and SHOs. The statistics must include (1) the number of claims at every commission office location decided in favor of an employer and the number of claims decided in favor of a claimant and (2) the number of claims each DHO or SHO decided in favor of an employer and the number of claimant.²

Report on statistics

The bill also requires the Industrial Commission to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly containing the required statistics for the previous calendar year. The report is due on or before January 31 of each year, with the first report being due on or before the first January 31 occurring one year after the bill's effective date.³

HISTORY

ACTION DATE Introduced 05-12-15

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² R.C. 4121.36(H)(1).

³ R.C. 4121.36(H)(2).