

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 18

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE GALLOWAY

Printer's No. 2014

1 Amend Bill, page 1, line 10, by inserting after "review"
2 and for compromise and release agreements

3 Amend Bill, page 7, line 16, by striking out "Section" where
4 it occurs the second time and inserting

5 Sections

6 Amend Bill, page 7, line 16, by inserting after "420"
7 and 449(b)

8 Amend Bill, page 7, line 16, by striking out "is" and
9 inserting

10 are

11 Amend Bill, page 8, by inserting between lines 17 and 18

12 Section 449. * * *

13 (b) Upon or after filing a petition, the employer or insurer
14 may submit the proposed compromise and release by stipulation
15 signed by both parties to the workers' compensation judge for
16 approval. The workers' compensation judge shall consider the
17 petition and the proposed agreement in open hearing and shall
18 render a decision. The workers' compensation judge shall not
19 approve any compromise and release agreement unless he first
20 determines that the claimant understands the full legal
21 significance of the agreement. In situations where the claimant
22 does not have legal representation, the workers' compensation
23 judge shall review the agreement with the claimant to ensure
24 that such claimant fully understands what future expenses and
25 responsibilities he may have if a compromise and agreement is
26 signed. The agreement must be explicit with regard to the
27 payment, if any, of reasonable, necessary and related medical
28 expenses. Hearings on the issue of a compromise and release
29 shall be expedited by the department, and the decision shall be
30 issued within thirty days.

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