

2023 -- S 0427 SUBSTITUTE A

LC001486/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

**RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION--
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Introduced By: Senators McKenney, Britto, F. Lombardi, Burke, Ciccone, and
LaMountain

Date Introduced: February 16, 2023

Referred To: Senate Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 28-29-17.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-29 entitled "Workers'
2 Compensation — General Provisions" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **28-29-17.1. Notice of designation as independent contractor.**

4 (a) A person will not be considered an "independent contractor" unless that person files a
5 notice of designation with the director, consistent with rules and regulations established by the
6 director, in writing, on a form provided by the director, that the person is an "independent
7 contractor". A person shall be required to file the form no later than January 31 of each year and
8 pay a fifty dollar (\$50.00) yearly registration fee, regardless of how many forms are filed. The filing
9 of the notice of designation shall be a presumption of "independent contractor" status but shall not
10 preclude a finding of independent contractor status by the court when the notice is not filed with
11 the director. That designation shall continue in force and effect unless the person withdraws that
12 designation by filing a notice with the director, in writing, on a form provided by the director, that
13 the person is no longer an "independent contractor". Any designation or withdrawal of designation
14 form shall be deemed public information and the director shall furnish copies or make available
15 electronically the forms and designations, upon written request, to any employer or insurer or its
16 authorized representative.

17 (b) The workers' compensation court may, upon petition of an employee, the dependents
18 of a deceased employee, or any other party in interest at any time, vacate any "notice of

1 designation” if the “notice of designation” has been improperly procured.

2 (c) The provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall only apply to injuries
3 occurring on and after January 1, 2001.

4 (d) By April 1 of each year, the department of labor and training will send a list of all
5 individuals who have filed a designation form to the Rhode Island department of revenue.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION--
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1 This act would require that any person who is considered an independent contractor to file
2 a designation form by January 31 of each year at a maximum cost of fifty dollars (\$50.00),
3 regardless of how many forms are filed and require the department of labor and training to provide
4 a list of those independent contractors to the department of revenue by April 1 of each year.

5 This act would take effect on January 1, 2024.

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