

2011 -- S 0748

LC02198

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Introduced By: Senators Goodwin, McCaffrey, and Doyle

Date Introduced: March 23, 2011

Referred To: Senate Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 28-30-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-30 entitled "Workers'
2 Compensation Court" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **28-30-13. Controversies submitted to court.** -- (a) Any controversy over which the
4 workers' compensation court has jurisdiction in accordance with chapters 29 -- 38 and chapter 53
5 of this title, including compensation, ~~reasonableness of~~ payment of medical and hospital bills,
6 (either before, or, where the parties have expressly provided and the court has approved, after a
7 lump sum settlement pursuant to section 28-33-25) and a determination of the reasonableness of
8 said bills, degree of functional impairment and/or disability, a dispute between an insurance
9 carrier and an employer under a workers' compensation insurance contract, except disputes under
10 the jurisdiction of the workers' compensation appeals board established pursuant to section 27-9-
11 29, failure of an employer to secure the payment of compensation under chapters 29 -- 38 and
12 chapter 53 of this title and any controversy in which the state or any of its political subdivisions is
13 a party, shall be submitted to the court in the manner provided in chapters 33 and 35 of this title.

14 (b) Disputes between an insurance carrier and an employer under a workers'
15 compensation insurance contract shall not be subject to a pretrial conference in accordance with
16 section 28-35-20, but shall be assigned consistent with the rules and regulations of the workers'
17 compensation court.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - WORKERS' COMPENSATION

1 This act would make explicit the workers' compensation court's authority to hear disputes
2 relating to medical expenses post commutation, where the parties have agreed to this
3 arrangement.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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