

**No. 6. An act relating to payment of workers' compensation benefits by electronic payroll card.**

(H.51)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 618 is amended to read:

§ 618. COMPENSATION FOR PERSONAL INJURY

\* \* \*

(f)(1) If an injured worker voluntarily consents in writing, the worker may be paid compensation benefits by means of direct deposit or an electronic prepaid benefit card account in accord with the requirements of section 342 of this title.

(2) The issuer of the card shall comply with all of the requirements, and provide the holder of the card with all of the consumer protections, that apply to a payroll card account under the rules implementing the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1693 et seq., as may be amended.

(3) An electronic prepaid benefit card account may be used only for weekly payment of temporary benefits and not for the payment of a lump sum award or for permanent benefits.

(4) The Commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Financial Regulation, may adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

Date the Governor signed the bill: April 23, 2013