

January 26, 1999

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1325

Page 1, line 3, after the semicolon insert "to amend and reenact section 65-02-23 of the North Dakota Century Code as amended by section 3 of House Bill No. 1331 and the new section to chapter 65-03 of the North Dakota Century Code as created by section 2 of House Bill No. 1296, as approved by the fifty-sixth legislative assembly;"

Page 2, after line 10, insert:

"SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. If House Bill No. 1331 becomes effective, section 65-02-23 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended by section 3 of House Bill No. 1331, is amended and reenacted as follows:

65-02-23. Workers' compensation fraud unit - Continuing appropriation.

The bureau shall establish a workers' compensation fraud unit. The bureau may employ investigators and licensed attorneys, or contract with a private investigator whenever feasible or cost effective, to investigate and review any alleged case of fraud against the fund by employers, injured workers, or providers of medical or other services, including activities described under section 65-04-14 or 65-05-33. The unit shall refer cases of fraud to the bureau for the imposition of administrative penalties and may refer them to the appropriate authorities for prosecution. Money in the workers' compensation fund is appropriated on a continuing basis for payment of costs associated with identifying, preventing, and investigating employer or provider fraud. The biennial independent performance ~~audit~~ evaluation of the bureau must evaluate and report on the effectiveness of these expenditures. The bureau may establish a process to charge investigative costs against the rate class of an employer being investigated and to credit any recoveries to that rate class."

Page 3, line 12, remove "**performance**" and overstrike "**audit**" and insert immediately thereafter "**performance evaluation**"

Page 3, line 15, overstrike "audit" and insert immediately thereafter "evaluation"

Page 3, line 17, overstrike "audit" and insert immediately thereafter "evaluation"

Page 3, line 19, overstrike "audit" and insert immediately thereafter "evaluation"

Page 3, line 22, overstrike "the auditor" and insert immediately thereafter "a representative of the firm" and overstrike "audit" and insert immediately thereafter "evaluation"

Page 3, line 25, remove "performance" and overstrike "audit" and insert immediately thereafter "performance evaluation"

Page 3, line 26, remove "performance" and overstrike "audit" and insert immediately thereafter "performance evaluation"

Page 3, line 28, remove "performance" and overstrike "audit" and insert immediately thereafter "performance evaluation"

Page 3, line 30, replace "audit" with "evaluation"

Page 3, after line 30, insert:

"SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. If House Bill No. 1296 becomes effective, the new section to chapter 65-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created by section 2 of House Bill No. 1296, is amended and reenacted as follows:

Safety programs. The bureau shall create and operate work safety and loss prevention programs to protect the health of covered employees and the financial integrity of the fund, including programs promoting safety practices by employers and employees through education, training, consultation, grants, or incentives. The biennial independent performance ~~audit~~ evaluation of the bureau must evaluate and report on the effectiveness of these programs."

Renumber accordingly