

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 74****2021 Regular Session****Frieman**

INSURERS: Provides relative to the workers' compensation claims office requirement for insurers issuing such policies in Louisiana

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Makes technical changes.
2. Changes the title to more accurately conform to the body of the bill.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law requires foreign and alien insurers issuing workers' compensation policies in La. to either maintain a claims office in La. for processing such claims or to retain the services of a La. domiciled independent claims adjuster.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the requirement that the retained La. claims adjuster be domiciled independently.

Present law provides that all insurers who issue workers' compensation policies in this state shall either establish and maintain a claims office within the state or retain a licensed claims adjuster.

Proposed law retains present law but specifies that the retained claims adjuster shall be licensed in La.

Proposed law provides that any insurer issuing workers' compensation policies in La. shall make any relevant claims adjuster available for deposition via telephone or video conferencing in the event a disputed claim for compensation is filed in which liability for statutory penalties and attorneys fees is at issue. Proposed law further provides that insurers make such adjusters available for in person testimony at the insurer's expense if a trial becomes necessary to adjudicate the disputed claim for compensation.

(Amends R.S. 22:337(A)(17) and R.S. 23:1161.1(A); Enacts R.S. 23:1161.1 (E))