

Act No. 25
Public Acts of 2002
Approved by the Governor
March 5, 2002
Filed with the Secretary of State
March 6, 2002
EFFECTIVE DATE: March 6, 2002

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
91ST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2002**

Introduced by Senator Bullard

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 718

AN ACT to amend 1969 PA 317, entitled "An act to revise and consolidate the laws relating to worker's disability compensation; to increase the administrative efficiency of the adjudicative processes of the worker's compensation system; to improve the qualifications of the persons having adjudicative functions within the worker's compensation system; to prescribe certain powers and duties; to create the board of worker's compensation magistrates and the worker's compensation appellate commission; to create certain other boards; to provide certain procedures for the resolution of claims, including mediation and arbitration; to prescribe certain benefits for persons suffering a personal injury under the act; to prescribe certain limitations on obtaining benefits under the act; to create, and provide for the transfer of, certain funds; to prescribe certain fees; to prescribe certain remedies and penalties; to repeal certain parts of this act on specific dates; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts," by amending section 551 (MCL 418.551), as amended by 1992 PA 269.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 551. (1) As soon as practicable after January 1 of each year, the director shall assess pursuant to subsection (3) a sum that in total is equal to 175% of the total disbursements made from the second injury fund during the preceding calendar year, less the amount of net assets in excess of \$200,000.00 in that fund as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year.

(2) As soon as practicable after January 1 of each year, the director shall assess pursuant to subsection (3) a sum that in total is equal to 175% of the total disbursements made from the silicosis, dust disease, and logging industry compensation fund during the preceding calendar year, less the amount of net assets in excess of \$200,000.00 in that fund as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year.

(3) The portion of the total assessment amounts under subsections (1) and (2) allocated to self-insurers shall be equal to a percentage determined as follows: The total paid losses of all self-insurers for the preceding calendar year divided by the total paid losses of all carriers during the preceding calendar year. The portion of the total assessment amounts under subsections (1) and (2) allocated to insurers shall be equal to a percentage determined as follows: The total paid losses of all insurers for the preceding calendar year divided by the total paid losses of all carriers during the preceding calendar year. The portion of the total assessments allocated to self-insurers that shall be collected from each self-insurer shall be equal to a percentage determined as follows: The total paid losses of each self-insurer divided by the total paid losses of all self-insurers during the preceding calendar year. The portion of the total assessment allocated to insurers that shall be collected from each insurer shall be equal to a percentage determined as follows: The amount of total direct premiums written as reported by each insurer divided by the amount of total direct premiums written as reported by all insurers during the preceding calendar year. As used in this subsection:

(a) "Direct premiums written" means standard written Michigan workers' compensation premium prior to the application of deductible credits, as reported to the designated advisory organization, through policy declarations and

unit statistical reports compiled pursuant to the authority in section 2407 of the insurance code of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.2407. For the purposes of determining assessments under this section, the reported data for the most recent full calendar year on file with the designated advisory organization shall be used.

(b) "Total paid losses" means total compensation benefits paid under this act, exclusive of payments made pursuant to sections 315, 319, and 345.

(4) The director, upon the advice of the trustee representing the self-insurers, may make additional assessments upon private self-insurers as the trustee considers necessary to keep the self-insurers' security fund solvent. The assessment shall not exceed 3% in any calendar year exclusive of payments made pursuant to sections 315, 319, and 345.

(5) Notice of the assessments shall be sent by the director by first class mail to each carrier. Payment of assessments shall be made so as to be received in the Lansing office of the bureau on or before a date specified uniformly in the notice, but not less than 90 days after the date of mailing.

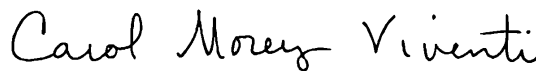
(6) All assessments constitute elements of loss for the purpose of establishing rates for worker's compensation insurance.

(7) An employer who has stopped being a self-insurer shall continue to be liable for a second injury fund; silicosis, dust disease, and logging industry compensation fund; or self-insurers' security fund assessment on account of any compensation benefits, exclusive of payments made pursuant to sections 315, 319, and 345, paid by the employer during the previous calendar year.

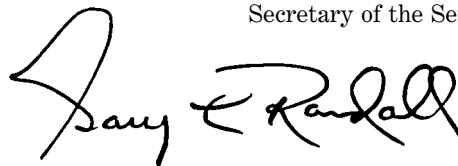
(8) The director shall certify to the trustees the collection and receipt of all money from assessments, noting any delinquencies. The trustees shall immediately notify delinquent carriers, including private self-insurers, of their delinquency in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested. The trustees shall take action as in their judgment is proper to effect collection of any delinquent assessment. All money received from assessments under this section shall be turned over to the state treasurer who shall be the custodian of the self-insurers' security fund; the second injury fund; and the silicosis, dust disease, and logging industry compensation fund. The treasurer may make those investments as in the treasurer's judgment are in the best interest of the funds. The earnings from the investment of the money from the funds shall be credited to the funds. The state treasurer, at the end of each fiscal year, shall determine what amount represents a pro rata earnings share due to each fund, shall credit the pro rata earning share to each fund, and shall notify the trustee of the amount credited and the balance of the respective fund as of September 30. The trustees shall make separate annual reports and accountings for each fund, which reports shall be included in the annual report of the bureau.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect January 1, 2002.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate.



Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved _____

Governor.