AN ACT concerning employment.

## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Workers' Compensation Act is amended by changing Sections 4a-2, 4a-4, 4a-5, 4a-6.1, 4a-7, 13, and 14 as follows:

(820 ILCS 305/4a-2) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.4a-2)

Sec. 4a-2. As used in Sections 4a-1 through 4a-9:

- (a) "Board" means the Self-Insurers Advisory Board created by Section 4a-1.
- (b) "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission.
- (c) "Private self-insurer" means a private employer that has been authorized to self-insure its payment of workers' compensation benefits pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 4 of this Act or to self-insure its payment of occupational disease benefits pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 4 of the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act but does not include group self-insured employers under Section 4a of this Act or Section 4a of the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act or the State of Illinois, any political subdivision of the State, unit of local government or school district, or any other public authorities or quasi-governmental bodies including any

subunits of the foregoing entities.

- (d) "Insolvent self-insurer" means a private self-insurer financially unable to pay compensation due under this Act, which (i) has filed either prior to or after the effective date of this Section or (ii) is the subject party in any proceeding under the Federal Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978, or is the subject party in any proceeding in which a receiver, custodian, liquidator, rehabilitator, sequestrator, trustee or similar officer has been appointed by any Court to act in lieu of or on behalf of that self-insurer.
- (e) "Fund" means the Self-Insurers Security Fund established by Section 4a-5.
- (f) "Trustee" means a member of the Self-Insurers Advisory Board.
- (g) (Blank). "Self-Insurers Administration Fund" means the Fund established by Section 4a 6.1.
- (h) "Application fee" means the application fee provided for in Section 4a-4.

(Source: P.A. 93-721, eff. 1-1-05.)

(820 ILCS 305/4a-4) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.4a-4)

Sec. 4a-4. The Self-Insurers Advisory Board shall possess all powers necessary and convenient to accomplish the objects prescribed by this Act, including but not limited to the following:

(a) The Board shall make such bylaws, rules, regulations

and resolutions necessary to carry out as are responsibilities. The Board may carry out its responsibilities directly or by contract or other instrument, and may purchase such services and collect and borrow such funds as it deems necessary to effectuate its activities and protect the members of the Board and its employees. The Board shall appoint, retain and employ such persons as it deems necessary to achieve the purposes of the Board. The Chairman shall be the chief administrative officer of the Board, and he or she shall have general supervisory authority over all employees of the Board. Designated employees shall be subject to the Illinois Personnel Code. All expenses incurred pursuant to this provision shall be paid from the Self-Insurers Security Administration Fund. Each private self-insurer applying for self-insurance and for renewal of the self-insurance privilege shall pay with its application a non-refundable application fee in the amount of \$500, which shall be deposited upon receipt by the Commission into the Self-Insurers Security Administration Fund and used only for the purposes set forth in Sections 4a-1 through 4a-9 this Section. An application fee shall be required of each corporation and each and every corporate subsidiary.

(b) The Board shall meet no less than quarterly and shall meet at other times upon the call of the Chairman, issued to the Trustees in writing no less than 48 hours prior to the day and hour of the meeting, or upon a request for a meeting

presented in writing to the Chairman no less than 72 hours prior to the proposed day and hour of the meeting and signed by at least a majority of the Trustees, whereupon the Chairman shall provide notice issued in writing to the Trustees no less than 48 hours prior to the meeting and shall convene the meeting at the time and place stated in the request.

- (c) Four Trustees shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting, and the affirmative vote of four Trustees shall be necessary for any action taken by the Board. No vacancy shall otherwise impair the rights of the remaining Trustees to exercise all of the powers of the Board.
- (d) The Board shall serve without compensation, but each member shall be entitled to be reimbursed for necessary and actual expenses incurred in the discharge of his official duties.
- (e) The Board shall have the right to sue and be sued in the name of the Commission.

(Source: P.A. 85-1385.)

(820 ILCS 305/4a-5) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.4a-5)

Sec. 4a-5. There is hereby created a Self-Insurers Security Fund. The State Treasurer shall be the ex officio custodian of the Self-Insurers Security Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be deposited in a separate account in the same manner as are State Funds and any interest accruing thereon shall be added thereto every 6 months. It shall be subject to

audit the same as State funds and accounts and shall be protected by the general bond given by the State Treasurer. The funds in the Self-Insurers Security Fund shall not be subject to appropriation and shall be made available for the purposes of compensating employees who are eligible to receive benefits from their employers pursuant to the provisions of Workers' Compensation Act or Workers' Occupational Diseases Act, when, pursuant to this Section, the Board has determined that a private self-insurer has become an insolvent self-insurer and is unable to pay compensation benefits due to financial insolvency. Moneys in the Fund may be used to compensate any type of injury or occupational disease which is compensable under either Act, and all claims for related administrative fees, operating costs of the Board, attorney's fees, and other costs reasonably incurred by the Board. Moneys At the discretion of the Chairman, moneys in the Self-Insurers Security Fund may also be used for paying the salaries and benefits of the Self-Insurers Advisory Board employees and the operating costs of the Board. Payment from the Self-Insurers Security Fund shall be made by the Comptroller only upon the authorization of the Chairman as evidenced by properly certified vouchers of the Commission, upon the direction of the Board.

(Source: P.A. 101-40, eff. 1-1-20; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21.)

(820 ILCS 305/4a-6.1) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.4a-6.1)

Sec. 4a-6.1. There is hereby created a Self-Insurers Administration Fund. The State Treasurer shall be ex-officio custodian of the Self-Insurers Administration Fund. Monies in the Self-Insurers Administration Fund shall be deposited in a separate account in the same manner as are State Funds, and any interest accruing thereon shall be added thereto every 6 months. It shall be subject to audit the same as State funds and accounts and shall be protected by the general bond given by the State Treasurer. The funds in the Self-Insurers Administration Fund shall not be subject to appropriation and shall be made available only for paying the salaries and benefits of the Self-Insurers Advisory Board employees and the operating costs of the Board. Payment from the Self-Insurers Administration Fund shall be made by the Comptroller only upon the authorization of the Chairman as evidenced by properly certified vouchers of the Commission. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in addition to any other transfers that may be provided by law, on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly, or as soon thereafter as practical, the State Comptroller shall direct and the State Treasurer shall transfer the remaining balance from the Self-Insurers Administration Fund into the Self-Insurers Security Fund. Upon completion of the transfers, the Self-Insurers Administration Fund is dissolved, and any future deposits due to the Self-Insurers Administration Fund and any outstanding obligations or liabilities of the

## <u>Self-Insurers Administration Fund pass to the Self-Insurers</u> Security Fund.

(Source: P.A. 85-1385.)

(820 ILCS 305/4a-7) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.4a-7)

Sec. 4a-7. (a) The Commission may upon direction of the Board from time to time assess each of the private self-insurers a pro rata share of the funding reasonably necessary to carry out its activities under <u>Sections 4a-1</u> through 4a-9 this Section. The prorations shall be made on the basis of each self-insured's most recent payment into the rate adjustment fund under Section 7(f) of this Act. In no event shall a private self-insurer be assessed at one time in excess of .6% of the compensation paid by that private self-insurer during the previous calendar year for claims incurred as a self-insurer. Total assessments against it in any calendar year shall not exceed 1.2% of the compensation it has paid during the previous calendar year as a self-insurer for claims incurred. Funds obtained by such assessments shall be used only for the purposes set forth in <u>Sections 4a-1 through 4a-9</u> this Section, and shall be deposited upon receipt by the Commission into the Self-Insurers Security Fund. If payment of any assessment made under this subsection is not made within 30 days of the sending of the notice to the private self-insurer, the Commission at the direction of the Board shall proceed in circuit court for judgment against that

private self-insurer which judgment shall include the amount of the assessment, the costs of suit, interest and reasonable attorneys' fees.

- (b) A private self-insurer which ceases to be a self-insurer shall be liable for any and all assessments made pursuant to this Section during the period following the date its certificate of authority to self-insure is withdrawn, revoked or surrendered until such time as it has discharged all obligations to pay compensation which arose during the period of time said former self-insurer was self-insured. Assessments of such a former private self-insurer shall be based on the compensation paid by the former private self-insurer during the preceding calendar year on claims that arose during the period of time said former private self-insurer was self-insured.
- (c) The Board on behalf of the Commission shall annually contract for an independent certified audit of the financial activities of the Fund, and an annual report as of June 30 shall be submitted promptly by the Board to the Chairman of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission and to each Trustee. Written reports of all activities shall be submitted to the Commission by the Board on a monthly basis.
- (d) If there are monies remaining in the Fund after all outstanding obligations of all insolvent self-insurers have been satisfied and the costs of administration and defense have been paid, such amounts shall be returned by the

Commission from the Fund as directed by the Board to the then private self-insurers in that proportion which each said private self-insurer has contributed to the Fund one year thereafter, provided no outstanding liabilities remain against the Fund.

(e) Each private self-insurer shall be subject to the direction of the Commission as provided in Sections 4a-1 through 4a-9 this Section as a condition of obtaining and maintaining its certificate of authority to self-insure.

(Source: P.A. 93-721, eff. 1-1-05.)

(820 ILCS 305/13) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.13)

Sec. 13. There is created an Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission consisting of 10 members to be appointed by the Governor, by and with the consent of the Senate, 3 of whom shall be representative citizens of the employing class operating under this Act and 3 of whom shall be from a labor organization recognized under the National Labor Relations Act or an attorney who has represented labor organizations or has represented employees in workers' compensation cases, and 4 of whom shall be representative citizens not identified with either the employing or employee classes. Not more than 6 members of the Commission shall be of the same political party. Each Commissioner appointed on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly must be authorized to practice law in this

## State by the Illinois Supreme Court and must maintain this authorization throughout his or her term of employment.

One of the members not identified with either the employing or employee classes shall be designated by the Governor as Chairman. The Chairman shall be the chief administrative and executive officer of the Commission; and he or she shall have general supervisory authority over all personnel of the Commission, including arbitrators and Commissioners, and the final authority in all administrative matters relating to the Commissioners, including but not limited to the assignment and distribution of cases and assignment of Commissioners to the panels, except in the promulgation of procedural rules and orders under Section 16 and in the determination of cases under this Act.

Notwithstanding the general supervisory authority of the Chairman, each Commissioner, except those assigned to the temporary panel, shall have the authority to hire and supervise 2 staff attorneys each. Such staff attorneys shall report directly to the individual Commissioner.

A formal training program for newly-appointed Commissioners shall be implemented. The training program shall include the following:

- (a) substantive and procedural aspects of the office of Commissioner;
- (b) current issues in workers' compensation law and
  practice;

- (c) medical lectures by specialists in areas such as orthopedics, ophthalmology, psychiatry, rehabilitation counseling;
- (d) orientation to each operational unit of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission;
- (e) observation of experienced arbitrators and Commissioners conducting hearings of cases, combined with the opportunity to discuss evidence presented and rulings made:
- (f) the use of hypothetical cases requiring the newly-appointed Commissioner to issue judgments as a means to evaluating knowledge and writing ability;
  - (g) writing skills;
- (h) professional and ethical standards pursuant to Section 1.1 of this Act;
- (i) detection of workers' compensation fraud and reporting obligations of Commission employees and appointees;
- (j) standards of evidence-based medical treatment and best practices for measuring and improving quality and health care outcomes in the workers' compensation system, including but not limited to the use of the American Medical Association's "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment" and the practice of utilization review; and
  - (k) substantive and procedural aspects of coal

workers' pneumoconiosis (black lung) cases.

A formal and ongoing professional development program including, but not limited to, the above-noted areas shall be implemented to keep Commissioners informed of recent developments and issues and to assist them in maintaining and enhancing their professional competence. Each Commissioner shall complete 20 hours of training in the above-noted areas during every 2 years such Commissioner shall remain in office.

The Commissioner candidates, other than the Chairman, must meet one of the following qualifications: (a) licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois; or (b) served as an arbitrator at the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission for at least 3 years; or (c) has at least 4 years of professional labor relations experience. The Chairman candidate must have public or private sector management and budget experience, as determined by the Governor.

Each Commissioner shall devote full time to his duties and any Commissioner who is an attorney-at-law shall not engage in the practice of law, nor shall any Commissioner hold any other office or position of profit under the United States or this State or any municipal corporation or political subdivision of this State, nor engage in any other business, employment, or vocation.

The term of office of each member of the Commission holding office on the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1989 is abolished, but the incumbents shall continue to

exercise all of the powers and be subject to all of the duties of Commissioners until their respective successors are appointed and qualified.

The Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission shall administer this Act.

In the promulgation of procedural rules, the determination of cases heard en banc, and other matters determined by the full Commission, the Chairman's vote shall break a tie in the event of a tie vote.

The members shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, as follows:

(a) After the effective date of this amendatory Act of 1989, 3 members, at least one of each political party, and one of whom shall be a representative citizen of the employing class operating under this Act, one of whom shall be a representative citizen of the class of employees covered under this Act, and one of whom shall be a representative citizen not identified with either the employing or employee classes, shall be appointed to hold office until the third Monday in January of 1993, and until their successors are appointed and qualified, and 4 members, one of whom shall be a representative citizen of the employing class operating under this Act, one of whom shall be a representative citizen of the class of employees covered in this Act, and two of whom shall be representative citizens not identified with either the

employing or employee classes, one of whom shall be designated by the Governor as Chairman (at least one of each of the two major political parties) shall be appointed to hold office until the third Monday of January in 1991, and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

(a-5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the term of each member of the Commission who was appointed by the Governor and is in office on June 30, 2003 shall terminate at the close of business on that date or when all of the successor members to be appointed pursuant to this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly have been appointed by the Governor, whichever occurs later. As soon as possible, the Governor shall appoint persons to fill the vacancies created by this amendatory Act. Of the initial commissioners appointed pursuant amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly, 3 shall be appointed for terms ending on the third Monday in January, 2005, and 4 shall be appointed for terms ending on the third Monday in January, 2007.

(a-10) After the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, the Commission shall be increased to 10 members. As soon as possible after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, the Governor shall appoint, by and with the consent of the Senate, the 3 members added to the

Commission under this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, one of whom shall be a representative citizen of the employing class operating under this Act, one of whom shall be a representative of the class of employees covered under this Act, and one of whom shall be a representative citizen not identified with either the employing or employee classes. Of the members appointed under this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, one shall be appointed for a term ending on the third Monday in January, 2007, and 2 shall be appointed for terms ending on the third Monday in January, 2009, and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

(b) Members shall thereafter be appointed to hold office for terms of 4 years from the third Monday in January of the year of their appointment, and until their successors are appointed and qualified. All such appointments shall be made so that the composition of the Commission is in accordance with the provisions of the first paragraph of this Section.

Each Commissioner shall receive an annual salary equal to 70% of that of a Circuit Court Judge in the Judicial Circuit constituted by the First Judicial District under the Salaries Act; the Chairman shall receive an annual salary of 5% more than the other Commissioners.

In case of a vacancy in the office of a Commissioner during the recess of the Senate, the Governor shall make a temporary

appointment until the next meeting of the Senate, when he shall nominate some person to fill such office. Any person so nominated who is confirmed by the Senate shall hold office during the remainder of the term and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

The Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission created by this amendatory Act of 1989 shall succeed to all the rights, powers, duties, obligations, records and other property and employees of the Industrial Commission which it replaces as modified by this amendatory Act of 1989 and all applications and reports to actions and proceedings of such prior Industrial Commission shall be considered as applications and reports to actions and proceedings of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission created by this amendatory Act of 1989.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, in the event the Chairman shall make a finding that a member is or will be unavailable to fulfill the responsibilities of his or her office, the Chairman shall advise the Governor and the member in writing and shall designate a certified arbitrator to serve as acting Commissioner. The certified arbitrator shall act as a Commissioner until the member resumes the duties of his or her office or until a new member is appointed by the Governor, by and with the consent of the Senate, if a vacancy occurs in the office of the Commissioner, but in no event shall a certified arbitrator serve in the capacity of

Commissioner for more than 6 months from the date of appointment by the Chairman. A finding by the Chairman that a member is or will be unavailable to fulfill responsibilities of his or her office shall be based upon notice to the Chairman by a member that he or she will be unavailable or facts and circumstances made known to the Chairman which lead him to reasonably find that a member is unavailable to fulfill the responsibilities of his or her office. The designation of a certified arbitrator to act as a Commissioner shall be considered representative of citizens not identified with either the employing or employee classes and the arbitrator shall serve regardless of his or her political affiliation. A certified arbitrator who serves as an acting Commissioner shall have all the rights and powers of a Commissioner, including salary.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Governor shall appoint a special panel of Commissioners comprised of 3 members who shall be chosen by the Governor, by and with the consent of the Senate, from among the current ranks of certified arbitrators. Three members shall hold office until the Commission in consultation with the Governor determines that the caseload on review has been reduced sufficiently to allow cases to proceed in a timely manner or for a term of 18 months from the effective date of their appointment by the Governor, whichever shall be earlier. The 3 members shall be considered representative of citizens not

identified with either the employing or employee classes and shall serve regardless of political affiliation. Each of the 3 members shall have only such rights and powers of a Commissioner necessary to dispose of those cases assigned to the special panel. Each of the 3 members appointed to the special panel shall receive the same salary as other Commissioners for the duration of the panel.

The Commission may have an Executive Director; if so, the Executive Director shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The salary and duties of the Executive Director shall be fixed by the Commission.

On the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly, the name of the Industrial Commission is changed to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission. References in any law, appropriation, rule, form, or other document: (i) to the Industrial Commission are deemed, in appropriate contexts, to be references to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission for all purposes; (ii) to the Industrial Commission Operations Fund are deemed, appropriate contexts, to be references to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission Operations Fund for all purposes; (iii) to the Industrial Commission Operations Fund Fee are deemed, in appropriate contexts, to be references to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission Operations Fund Fee for all purposes; and (iv) to the Industrial Commission Operations Fund Surcharge are deemed, in appropriate contexts,

to be references to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission Operations Fund Surcharge for all purposes.

(Source: P.A. 101-384, eff. 1-1-20; 102-16, eff. 6-17-21.)

(820 ILCS 305/14) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.14)

Sec. 14. The Commission shall appoint a secretary and, an assistant secretary, and arbitrators and shall employ such assistants and clerical help as may be necessary. Arbitrators shall be appointed pursuant to this Section, notwithstanding any provision of the Personnel Code.

Each arbitrator appointed after June 28, 2011 shall be required to demonstrate in writing his or her knowledge of and expertise in the law of and judicial processes of the Workers' Compensation Act and the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act.

A formal training program for newly-hired arbitrators shall be implemented. The training program shall include the following:

- (a) substantive and procedural aspects of the arbitrator position;
- (b) current issues in workers' compensation law and practice;
- (c) medical lectures by specialists in areas such as orthopedics, ophthalmology, psychiatry, rehabilitation counseling;
- (d) orientation to each operational unit of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission;

- (e) observation of experienced arbitrators conducting hearings of cases, combined with the opportunity to discuss evidence presented and rulings made;
- (f) the use of hypothetical cases requiring the trainee to issue judgments as a means to evaluating knowledge and writing ability;
  - (g) writing skills;
- (h) professional and ethical standards pursuant to Section 1.1 of this Act;
- (i) detection of workers' compensation fraud and reporting obligations of Commission employees and appointees;
- (j) standards of evidence-based medical treatment and best practices for measuring and improving quality and health care outcomes in the workers' compensation system, including but not limited to the use of the American Medical Association's "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment" and the practice of utilization review; and
- (k) substantive and procedural aspects of coal workers' pneumoconiosis (black lung) cases.

A formal and ongoing professional development program including, but not limited to, the above-noted areas shall be implemented to keep arbitrators informed of recent developments and issues and to assist them in maintaining and enhancing their professional competence. Each arbitrator shall

complete 20 hours of training in the above-noted areas during every 2 years such arbitrator shall remain in office.

Each arbitrator shall devote full time to his or her duties and shall serve when assigned as an acting Commissioner when a Commissioner is unavailable in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of this Act. Any arbitrator who is an attorney-at-law shall not engage in the practice of law, nor shall any arbitrator hold any other office or position of profit under the United States or this State or any municipal political subdivision corporation or of this Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act to the contrary, an arbitrator who serves as an acting Commissioner in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of this Act shall continue to serve in the capacity of Commissioner until a decision is reached in every case heard by that arbitrator while serving as an acting Commissioner.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the term of all arbitrators serving on June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act 97-18), including any arbitrators on administrative leave, shall terminate at the close of business on July 1, 2011, but the incumbents shall continue to exercise all of their duties until they are reappointed or their successors are appointed.

On and after June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act 97-18), arbitrators shall be appointed to 3-year terms as follows:

- (1) All appointments shall be made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.
- (2) For their initial appointments, 12 arbitrators shall be appointed to terms expiring July 1, 2012; 12 arbitrators shall be appointed to terms expiring July 1, 2013; and all additional arbitrators shall be appointed to terms expiring July 1, 2014. Thereafter, all arbitrators shall be appointed to 3-year terms.

Upon the expiration of a term, the Chairman shall evaluate the performance of the arbitrator and may recommend to the Governor that he or she be reappointed to a second or subsequent term by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Each arbitrator appointed on or after June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act 97-18) and who has not previously served as an arbitrator for the Commission shall be required to be authorized to practice law in this State by the Supreme Court, and to maintain this authorization throughout his or her term of employment.

The performance of all arbitrators shall be reviewed by the Chairman every other year, or more often at the discretion of the Chairman on an annual basis. The Chairman shall allow input from the Commissioners in all such reviews.

The Commission shall assign no fewer than 3 arbitrators to each hearing site. The Commission shall establish a procedure to ensure that the arbitrators assigned to each hearing site

are assigned cases on a random basis. No arbitrator shall hear cases in any county, other than Cook County, for more than  $\frac{4}{2}$  years consecutively in each 3-year term.

The Secretary and each arbitrator shall receive a per annum salary of 5% less than the per annum salary of members of The Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission as provided in Section 13 of this Act, payable in equal monthly installments.

The members of the Commission, Arbitrators and other employees whose duties require them to travel, shall have reimbursed to them their actual traveling expenses and disbursements made or incurred by them in the discharge of their official duties while away from their place of residence in the performance of their duties.

The Commission shall provide itself with a seal for the authentication of its orders, awards and proceedings upon which shall be inscribed the name of the Commission and the words "Illinois--Seal".

The Secretary or Assistant Secretary, under the direction of the Commission, shall have charge and custody of the seal of the Commission and also have charge and custody of all records, files, orders, proceedings, decisions, awards and other documents on file with the Commission. He shall furnish certified copies, under the seal of the Commission, of any such records, files, orders, proceedings, decisions, awards and other documents on file with the Commission as may be required. Certified copies so furnished by the Secretary or

Assistant Secretary shall be received in evidence before the Commission or any Arbitrator thereof, and in all courts, provided that the original of such certified copy is otherwise competent and admissible in evidence. The Secretary or Assistant Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Commission.

(Source: P.A. 102-16, eff. 6-17-21.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.