

March 21, 2007

S 1338. AMEND WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT. Filed 3/21/07. *TO AMEND THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.*

Amends GS 97-80 to authorize the NC Industrial Commission (NCIC) to adopt rules and standards regarding the providing of representation for individuals determined by the NCIC to be (1) not competent for self-representation before the NCIC, or (2) indigent. Provides that the NCIC may apportion fees to resolve disputes regarding attorneys' fees between two or more attorneys representing the same party in a claim under the act. Amends GS 97-84 providing that the award and all pertinent matters to the question at issue are to be filed with the record of the proceedings within 180 days of the close of the hearing (was, close of the hearing record) unless it is extended for good cause by order of the Chair of the NCIC (was, the NCIC). Amends GS 97-88.2 to give persons performing investigations regarding possible fraud or criminal violations relating to workers compensation claims with the authority to make arrests and obtain and serve warrants under the rules of the NCIC.

Intro. by Berger of Franklin.

GS 97