

BILL

No. 601

An Act to amend *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2013* to provide protection for workers suffering post-traumatic stress disorder

(Assented to _____)

Preamble

WHEREAS workers in any occupation or workplace could face a traumatic event or a series of traumatic events that can cause post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD);

AND WHEREAS if the traumatic event or events that cause PTSD occur in the workplace, PTSD should be presumed to be an occupational injury to better support affected workers by simplifying the claims adjudication process for workers' compensation benefits;

THEREFORE HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

Short title

1 *The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2016.*

S.S. 2013, c.W-17.11 amended

2 *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2013* is amended in the manner set forth in this Act.

New section 28.1

3(1) **The following section is added after section 28:**

"Presumption of post-traumatic stress disorder

28.1(1) In this section, section 27 and section 187 **"post-traumatic stress disorder"** means:

(a) post-traumatic stress disorder as that condition is described in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*;

(b) **Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders'** means the most recent edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* published by the American Psychiatric Association.

(2) If a worker is:

(a) exposed to a traumatic event or events of a type specified in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* as a trigger for post-traumatic stress disorder; and

(b) is diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder by a duly qualified medical practitioner or psychologist;

for the purposes of this Act, the post-traumatic stress disorder diagnosis is presumed to be an injury, the dominant cause of which is the worker's employment, unless the contrary is proven".

Coming into force

4(1) Subject to subsection 2, this Act comes into force on assent.

(2) This Act is retroactive and is deemed to have been in force on and from January 1, 2013.

FIRST SESSION

Twenty-eighth Legislature

SASKATCHEWAN

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Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time

And Passed

Ms. Danielle Chartier
