

AMENDMENT NO. _____

FILED
Date _____
Time _____
Clerk _____
Comm. Amdt. _____

Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2973*

House Bill No. 2803

by adding the following new sections immediately preceding the last section and by renumbering the subsequent section accordingly:

Section _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-238, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and by substituting instead the following:

(a) With respect to the determination of whether to initiate or reinstitute temporary total disability benefits or medical benefits, a workers' compensation specialist shall not be an advocate for either party, but shall decide such issues solely on the basis of the information available to such specialist without favor or presumption for or against either party. If, in light of available information, a workers' compensation specialist determines that it is appropriate to commence or reinstitute the payment of temporary total disability benefits and/or medical benefits to an employee, then a workers' compensation specialist may order the initiation, confirmation, or reinstatement of such benefits by an employer or the employer's workers' compensation insurer. The specialist shall order, on a form prescribed by the commissioner of labor, that such compensation be paid.

Section _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-238(c), is amended in the first sentence by inserting the language “, continuation or reinstatement” between the language “initiation” and “of compensation”.

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