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**Act No. 150 (S.342). Labor; workers' compensation; COVID-19**

**An act relating to temporary workers' compensation amendments related to COVID-19**

This act provides temporary authority for the Commissioner of Labor to issue guidance and adopt procedures to extend deadlines or temporarily amend or waive specific requirements related to workers' compensation during the period between March 1, 2020 and January 15, 2021. This act also establishes a rebuttable presumption that certain frontline workers are entitled to workers' compensation coverage for illness or death resulting from COVID-19 if it is diagnosed during the period from March 1, 2020 through January 15, 2021 and that other workers are entitled to workers' compensation coverage for illness or death resulting from COVID-19 if it is diagnosed during the same period and the worker had a documented exposure to COVID-19 while working. In addition, the act requires the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to examine the potential to create a special fund to reimburse workers' compensation costs related to COVID-19. Finally, the act maintains the existing rates of contribution for the Workers' Compensation Administration Fund and creates an exemption from the Sales and Use Tax for certain recyclable paper carryout bags that are sold to customers pursuant to Vermont law.

Effective Date: July 13, 2020