

Senate Calendar

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021

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ACTION CALENDAR

NEW BUSINESS

Second Reading

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 9.

An act relating to extending certain workers' compensation amendments related to COVID-19.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Sirotkin for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. INTENT; WORKERS' COMPENSATION; EXTENSION OF
COVID-19-RELATED PROVISIONS

It is the intent of the General Assembly to continue uninterrupted from January 15, 2021 until 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency declared in response to COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order 01-20:

(1) the Commissioner of Labor's authority pursuant to 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 150, Sec. 1 to temporarily extend deadlines and amend or waive specific requirements of Vermont's workers' compensation laws during a state of emergency related to COVID-19; and

(2) the provisions of 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 150, Sec. 2 establishing in certain circumstances a rebuttable presumption that a worker who is diagnosed with COVID-19 is entitled to benefits under Vermont's workers' compensation laws.

Sec. 2. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 150, Sec. 2(a)(1) is amended to read:

(a)(1) In the case of a front-line worker, disability or death resulting from COVID-19 shall be presumed to be compensable pursuant to 21 V.S.A. chapter 9, provided that the front-line worker receives a positive laboratory test for COVID-19 or a diagnosis of COVID-19 from a licensed healthcare provider between March 1, 2020 and January 15, 2021 the 30th day following the termination of the state of emergency declared in response to COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order 01-20.

Sec. 3. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 150, Sec. 2(b) is amended to read:

(b) For an employee who is not a front-line worker as defined in subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this section, disability or death resulting from COVID-19 shall be presumed to be compensable pursuant to 21 V.S.A. chapter 9 if the employee receives a positive laboratory test for COVID-19 or a diagnosis of COVID-19 from a licensed healthcare provider between April 1, 2020 and January 15, 2021 the 30th day following the termination of the state of emergency declared in response to COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order 01-20 and, not more than 14 days prior to the date on which the employee is tested or examined, either:

* * *

Sec. 4. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 150, Sec. 3 is amended to read:

Sec. 3. PROSPECTIVE REPEAL

In the absence of legislative action to the contrary, Secs. 1 and 2 of this act are repealed on January 15, 2021 the 30th day following the termination of the state of emergency declared in response to COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order 01-20.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage; except that notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Secs. 1, 2, and 3 shall take effect retroactively on January 15, 2021.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

Concurrent Resolutions For Action Under Joint Rule 16

The following joint concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the Senate and House. They will be adopted by the Senate unless a Senator requests floor consideration before the end of the session. Requests for floor consideration should be communicated to the Secretary's Office.

H.C.R. 1 - 6 (For text of Resolutions, see Addendum to House Calendar for January 14, 2021)