

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT FOR PERMANENT RULES

TITLE 810. OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION CHAPTER 10. PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

A. Brief description of the purpose of the rules:

The proposed rules include clarifying a citation in the definitions section by striking reference to a repealed federal law; updating rule language to conform with a statutory change to 85A O.S. § 56 made by SB 1375 (Reg. Sess. 2020), which expressly added chiropractic services to allowable medical treatment; amending language in line with 85A O.S. § 45 regarding which edition of the American Medical Association's Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment should be used; and adding language to allow Joint Petition Settlements to be made when approved by the Commission, replacing the option "in cases of extreme circumstances."

B. Description of classes of persons who will be affected by the proposed rules:

The classes of persons to be affected by the proposed rules are workers' compensation system participants, including attorneys, employers, medical providers, insurance carriers, and third party administrators who are subject to the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act.

C. Description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rules:

The classes of persons who will benefit are employees, employers, self-insured entities, third-party administrators, insurance carriers and agents, medical providers, and attorneys.

D. Description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rules:

No economic impact is anticipated.

E. Description of probable costs and benefits to the agency:

There are no probable costs associated with implementing these amendments. The proposed rules would benefit the Commission and workers' compensation system participants by clarifying existing rules and establishing procedures consistent with state law.

F. Determination of economic impact on political subdivisions:

The proposed rules will not have an economic impact on political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rules.

G. Determination of adverse economic impact on small business:

The proposed rules will not have an adverse effect on small businesses as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.

H. Explanation of measures to minimize compliance costs:

The proposed rules will not increase compliance costs. There are no less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods.

I. Determination of effect on public health, safety and environment:

There will be no effect on the public health, safety, or the environment.

J. Determination of any detrimental effect on public health, safety and environment:

There is no detrimental effect on the public health, safety, or the environment from the non-implementation of these rules.

K. Date of Impact Statement Preparation: January 20, 2023.