

**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 revisions to Subchapter 1 change the mandatory implementation date of the Commission's electronic data interchange (EDI) system to September 1, 2018; adopt the IAIABC Release 3.1 EDI standards; provide for the electronic filing of documents upon the Commission's implementation of a Case Management System; amend procedures related to discovery and contempt in Commission proceedings; and modify the requirements for attorney leave requests. The proposed amendment to Subchapter 3 requires the Commission to notify injured workers of the counselor program and availability of alternative dispute resolution upon the filing of the Employer's First Notice of Injury.

The proposed revisions to Subchapter 5 require inclusion of the last five digits of a worker's Social Security number on claims forms; specify procedures for designating a treating physician under 85A O.S. §50(A); establish additional procedures in appeals before the Commission en banc; specify that reimbursement requests for travel expenses under 85A O.S. §50(G) must be paid within sixty days; establish procedures for nunc pro tunc orders; and clarify that joint petition settlements may be entered upon the filing of the Employer's First Notice of Injury in lieu of a claim for compensation or an electronically-submitted First Report of Injury (FROI). The proposed amendments include other nonsubstantive changes to correct grammatical and formatting errors.

**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 employees, employers, 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.

**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 employees, employers, insurance carriers, and third-party administrators by clarifying Commission processes and establishing necessary procedures for Commission hearings.

**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 and environment.

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

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

**K. Date of Impact Statement Preparation:** January 17, 2018.