

Signatures

R97-1-06

Requirement on Physicians Reports

August 5, 1997

WHEREAS, on January 31, 1984 the Industrial Commission promulgated Resolution No. R84-6-7; and

WHEREAS, Section 4123.10 of the Ohio Revised Code provides that the Industrial Commission shall not be bound by the usual common law or statutory rules of evidence or by any technical or formal rules of procedure; and

WHEREAS, 4121-3-09(A)(1) of the Ohio Administrative Code provides that in every instance the proof shall be of sufficient quantum and probative value to establish the jurisdiction of the Industrial Commission to consider the claim and the rights of the employee to an award; and

WHEREAS, questions have arisen as to the authentication of healthcare providers' reports that are not personally signed by the healthcare provider, where the healthcare provider has provided signature authority to a physician's assistant, nurse, or other staff member of the healthcare provider's office; and

WHEREAS, the Industrial Commission finds that there are occasions where it is difficult to obtain a healthcare provider's handwritten signature on a healthcare provider's report that is submitted to the Industrial Commission and obtaining the handwritten signature of a healthcare provider in such a claim can delay the timely adjudication of the contested claims matter to the detriment of the parties; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Division (E) of Section 4121.03 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Industrial Commission is responsible for the establishment of the overall adjudicatory policy and management of the Industrial Commission.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all reports of healthcare providers submitted to the Industrial Commission shall be signed by the healthcare provider submitting the report or by the healthcare provider's authorized representative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Resolution No. R84-6-7 be rescinded.