

HOUSE BILL 2253

By Turner M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-29-230 and Section 50-6-225, relative to workers' compensation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-225, shall be amended by deleting subdivision (a)(2) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a)(2)

(A) In the event the parties are unable to reach an agreement at the benefit review conference as to all issues related to the claim or the benefit review conference process is otherwise exhausted pursuant to rules promulgated by the commissioner, either party may file a civil action as provided in § 50-6-203 pursuant to the following:

(i) if the employee resides in Tennessee, the complaint shall be filed in the circuit or chancery court of the county in which the employee resides;

(ii) if the employee resides outside of Tennessee, the complaint shall be filed in the circuit or chancery court of the county in which the alleged injury occurred;

(iii) if the employee resides outside of Tennessee and the injury occurred outside of Tennessee, the complaint shall be filed in the circuit or chancery court of any county where the employer maintains an office;

(iv) if the venue is not determined by subdivisions (a)(2)(A)(i)-(iii), then the complaint shall be filed in the circuit or chancery court of Davidson County.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(2)(A), if the parties are unable to reach an agreement at the benefit review conference as to all issues related to the claim or the benefit review conference process is otherwise exhausted pursuant to rules promulgated by the commissioner, and if the employer is a county or a municipal corporation that has accepted the provisions of this chapter, either party may file a civil action in the circuit or chancery court of the county in which the governmental entity is located;

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.