SENATE BILL 764

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 6, Part 2, relative to workers' compensation.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-204(g)(2)(A), is amended by adding in the last sentence of the subdivision the language "in accordance with § 50-6-239(c)" immediately after the word "resolution".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-208(j)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

(1) If, after the compensation under § 50-6-207(3)(A) has been provided, the employee has not returned to work with any employer because of a work injury, or has returned to work and is receiving wages or a salary that is less than one hundred percent (100%) of the wages or salary the employee received from the employee's preinjury employer on the date of injury, then the injured employee may request vocational recovery assistance from the subsequent injury and vocational recovery fund. To be eligible for assistance, the injured employee must submit to the bureau on a form approved by the administrator a request for vocational recovery assistance within ninety (90) days of the date of final payment of the compensation under § 50-6-207(3)(A).

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-208(j)(7), is amended by deleting "2021" and substituting instead "2025".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-6-238(a)(3), is amended by deleting the language "and to compel obedience to their judgments, orders, and process through the assessment of a penalty as provided in § 50-6-118" and substituting instead "to

compel obedience to their judgments, orders, and process through the assessment of a penalty as provided in § 50-6-118, and to conduct judicial settlement conferences".

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to injuries occurring on or after that date.

- 2 - 000121