

1 H.51

2 Introduced by Representatives Marcotte of Coventry, Botzow of Pownal,
3 Bouchard of Colchester, Carr of Brandon, Cross of Winooski,
4 Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Kitzmiller of Montpelier,
5 Kupersmith of South Burlington, Ralston of Middlebury,
6 Scheuermann of Stowe, and Young of Glover

7 Referred to Committee on Commerce and Economic Development

8 Date:

9 Subject: Labor; workers' compensation; compensation for personal injury

10 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow
11 workers' compensation benefits to be paid through the use of an electronic pay
12 card account.

13 An act relating to payment of workers' compensation benefits by electronic
14 payroll card

15 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

16 ~~Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 618 is amended to read:~~

17 § 618. COMPENSATION FOR PERSONAL INJURY

18 * * *

19 ~~(f) If an injured worker voluntarily consents in writing, the worker may be~~
20 ~~paid compensation benefits by means of direct deposit or an electronic payroll~~

1 ~~card account in accord with the requirements of section 342 of this title and~~
2 any rules adopted by the Commissioner to implement this section. An
3 electronic payroll card account may be used only for weekly payment of
4 benefits and not for the payment of a lump sum award.

5 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 ~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.~~

Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 618 is amended to read:

§ 618. COMPENSATION FOR PERSONAL INJURY

* * *

(f)(1) If an injured worker voluntarily consents in writing, the worker may be paid compensation benefits by means of direct deposit or an electronic prepaid benefit card account in accord with the requirements of section 342 of this title.

(2) The issuer of the card shall comply with all of the requirements, and provide the holder of the card with all of the consumer protections, that apply to a payroll card account under the rules implementing the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, ~~15 U.S.C. § 1601~~ 15 U.S.C. § 1693 et seq., as may be amended.

(3) An electronic prepaid benefit card account may be used only for weekly payment of temporary benefits and not for the payment of a lump sum award or for permanent benefits.

(4) The Commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Financial Regulation, may adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.