Second Regular Session Sixty-seventh General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

This Unofficial Version Includes Committee Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading

LLS NO. 10-0209.01 Thomas Morris

HOUSE BILL 10-1012

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pace, Miklosi, Ryden

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Carroll M., Hodge, Tochtrop

House Committees

Senate Committees

Judiciary Appropriations

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING LIMITATIONS	ON THE USE OF	SURVEILLANCE OF
102	EMPLOYEES WHO	HAVE SUBMITTI	ED A WORKERS
103	COMPENSATION CLAIM		

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.)

Interim Committee to Study Issues Related to Pinnacol Assurance. Section 1 of the bill:

Prohibits an insurer or employer from conducting surveillance of an employee who has submitted a workers'

- compensation claim unless the insurer or employer has a reasonable basis to suspect that the employee has committed fraud or made a material misstatement concerning the claim;
- ! Allows the employee to request an expedited hearing before a prehearing administrative law judge;
- ! Requires the insurer or employer to provide all materials collected during the surveillance to the injured worker and to destroy all materials collected during the surveillance unless the materials are reasonably necessary to resolve an ongoing claim of fraud;
- ! Requires persons conducting surveillance to answer the employee's questions truthfully; and
- ! Creates a \$1,000-per-day penalty for violations.

Section 2 of the bill:

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- Directs the prehearing administrative law judge to issue an injunction against the surveillance unless the insurer or employer shows that it has a reasonable basis to suspect that the employee has committed fraud or made a material misstatement concerning the claim; and
- ! Allows the identity of a witness or whistleblower who provides evidence in good faith to be withheld or limited to an in camera review.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. 8-43-304 (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

8-43-304. Violations - penalty - offset for benefits obtained through fraud - rules. (2) (a) An insurer or self-insured employer may take a credit or offset of previously paid workers' compensation benefits or payments against any further workers' compensation benefits or payments due a worker when the worker admits to having obtained the previously paid benefits or payments through fraud, or a civil judgment or criminal conviction is entered against the worker for having obtained the previously paid benefits through fraud. Benefits or payments obtained through fraud by a worker shall not be included in any data used for

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1	$rate-making\ or\ individual\ employer\ rating\ or\ dividend\ calculations\ by\ any$		
2	insurer or by Pinnacol Assurance.		
3	(b) (I) NO INSURER OR EMPLOYER SHALL CONDUCT SURVEILLANCE		
4	OF AN EMPLOYEE WHO HAS SUBMITTED A WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIM		
5	UNLESS THE INSURER OR EMPLOYER HAS A REASONABLE BASIS TO SUSPECT		
6	THAT THE EMPLOYEE HAS COMMITTED FRAUD OR MADE A MATERIAL		
7	MISSTATEMENT CONCERNING THE CLAIM. ONCE THE		
8	APPLICABLE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS RUN, THE INSURER OR		
9	EMPLOYER SHALL DESTROY ALL MATERIALS COLLECTED DURING THE		
10	SURVEILLANCE UNLESS THE MATERIALS ARE REASONABLY NECESSARY TO		
11	RESOLVE AN ONGOING CLAIM OF FRAUD. IF THE EMPLOYEE ASKS A PERSON		
12	WHO IS CONDUCTING THE SURVEILLANCE WHAT THAT PERSON IS DOING OR		
13	ON WHOSE BEHALF THE PERSON IS ACTING, IT SHALL BE A VIOLATION OF		
14	THIS PARAGRAPH (b) IF THE PERSON FAILS TO ANSWER TRUTHFULLY THAT		
15	THE PERSON IS CONDUCTING SURVEILLANCE ON THE EMPLOYEE OR THAT		
16	THE PERSON IS ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE INSURER OR EMPLOYER, AS		
17	APPROPRIATE.		
18	(II) A VIOLATION OF THIS PARAGRAPH (b) IS PUNISHABLE BY AN		
19	ADMINISTRATIVE FINE OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER DAY OF		
20	UNAUTHORIZED SURVEILLANCE, AN INJUNCTION, OR BOTH A FINE AND AN		
21	INJUNCTION. INFORMATION COLLECTED BY UNAUTHORIZED		
22	SURVEILLANCE SHALL NOT BE USED TO REJECT A CLAIM. THE DIVISION		
23	SHALL TRANSMIT REVENUES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH		
24	(b) TO THE EMPLOYEE.		
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26	SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date -		
27	applicability. (1) This act shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day		

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following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment 1 2 of the general assembly (August 11, 2010, if adjournment sine die is on 3 May 12, 2010); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to 4 section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, 5 6 section, or part shall not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2010 and shall take effect on the 7 8 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

(2) The provisions of this act shall apply to surveillance conducted on or after the applicable effective date of this act.

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