



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 26: Workers' Comp/Approval of Disputed Legal Fees.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	June 13, 2017
Introduced by:	Reps. Watford, Zachary	Prepared by:	Amy Darden
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 26 would require the Industrial Commission to give notice of the amount of the approved attorneys' fees in a workers' compensation case to all attorneys who represented the injured worker.

CURRENT LAW: In workers' compensation proceedings, the amount of the fee for the injured employee's attorney must be approved by the Industrial Commission, and the Commission also hears and determines any dispute between the employee's current and past attorneys over the division of the approved fee. In making that determination, the Commission currently is not required to disclose the total amount of the approved fee to the employee's past attorney.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 26 would amend G.S. 97-90(f) to require the Industrial Commission to provide notice of the total amount of the fee approved for division between attorneys to an injured worker's current and previous attorneys if there is a dispute over the division of the fee between the attorneys.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to claims pending on or after that date.

Jason Moran-Bates, Staff Attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.

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