

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT  
TO  
2 ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1456 By: Treat of the Senate  
3 and  
4 Kannady of the House  
5  
6  
7

8 [ Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims -  
9 divisions - jurisdiction - costs - duty - appointment  
- rules - authority - appeal - report - funds -  
effective date -  
10 emergency ]

11  
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13  
14 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the stricken title, enacting clause, and  
entire bill and insert:  
15

16 "An Act relating to the Workers' Compensation Court  
17 of Existing Claims; amending 20 O.S. 2021, Section  
30.14, which relates to divisions of the Court of  
18 Civil Appeals; establishing Court of Existing Claims  
(CEC) Division of the Court of Civil Appeals;  
19 clarifying certain jurisdiction; amending 85A O.S.  
2021, Section 122, as amended by Section 1, Chapter  
19, 1st Extraordinary Session, O.S.L. 2023 (85A O.S.  
20 Supp. 2023, Section 122), which relates to costs of  
administering act; conforming language; amending 85A  
21 O.S. 2021, Sections 400, 401, and 401.1, which relate  
to the Workers' Compensation Court, the Workers'  
22 Compensation Court of Existing Claims Revolving Fund,  
and the Workers' Compensation Administrative Fund;  
23 providing judge to serve on certain Division as  
additional duty; terminating appointment of  
24 Administrator of the Court of Existing Claims;

1 transferring certain duties to the Oklahoma Workers'  
2 Compensation Commission; modifying certain contract  
3 authority; requiring Division to operate by certain  
4 rules; modifying designation as court of record;  
5 specifying allowable locations for certain hearings;  
6 providing procedures for appeal of certain decisions;  
7 preserving certain rights and penalties; requiring  
8 electronic submission of certain report by the  
9 Administrator of the Commission; requiring inclusion  
10 of certain information in report; modifying certain  
11 employment authority; modifying names of certain  
12 funds; modifying requirements for administration of  
13 certain funds; updating statutory references;  
14 updating statutory language; providing an effective  
15 date; and declaring an emergency.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 30.14, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 30.14. A. 1. In addition to the provisions of  
20 Sections 30.1 through ~~30.12~~ 30.19 of ~~Title 20 of the Oklahoma~~  
21 ~~Statutes~~ this title, and in addition to the four permanent divisions  
22 established by Section 30.2 of ~~Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~  
23 this title, the Court of Civil Appeals shall consist of as many  
24 additional divisions as the Supreme Court may deem advisable to  
convene for prompt disposition of its docket. Each division shall  
consist of three Judges, at least two of whom shall concur in any  
decision. In the exercise of its powers granted by Article VII,  
Section 6 of the Oklahoma Constitution, the Supreme Court shall make

1 temporary assignments of judicial officers, active or retired, and  
2 lawyers, having prior to their assignment the qualifications of a  
3 district judge, to sit on a division of the Court of Civil Appeals  
4 convened under the authority of this ~~act~~ section. Each division of  
5 the Court of Civil Appeals shall select its presiding Judge. The  
6 Supreme Court may prescribe by rule where the division shall sit and  
7 how that Court shall conduct its business and practice before it.

8 2. The Court of Civil Appeals shall establish a division to be  
9 referred to as the Court of Existing Claims (CEC) Division of the  
10 Court of Civil Appeals which shall replace the three-judge en banc  
11 panel of the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims. The  
12 CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals shall be vested with  
13 jurisdiction over all appeals in the same manner as appeals to the  
14 three-judge en banc panel filed pursuant to the Workers'  
15 Compensation Code or previous statute in effect on the date of an  
16 injury that occurred before February 1, 2014. In no event does the  
17 CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals, as successor to the  
18 three-judge en banc panel, have jurisdiction over any claim arising  
19 on or after the effective date of this act.

20 B. Each division of the Court of Civil Appeals convened under  
21 the authority of this ~~act~~ section shall have jurisdiction to  
22 determine or otherwise dispose of any case assigned to it by the  
23 Supreme Court, and its decisions, when final, shall be neither  
24 appealable to the Supreme Court nor be subject to reexamination by

1 another division of the Court of Civil Appeals or by the Judges of  
2 that Court sitting en banc. The Supreme Court may recall a case  
3 from the Court of Civil Appeals; it may review a decision of the  
4 Court of Civil Appeals when a majority of its Justices direct that  
5 certiorari be granted. In any case assigned to it by the Supreme  
6 Court, the Court of Civil Appeals shall have the power to issue  
7 writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto, certiorari, and  
8 prohibition.

9 C. The opinions of the Court of Civil Appeals shall be written  
10 in the form prescribed by the Supreme Court. No opinion of the  
11 Court of Civil Appeals shall be binding or cited as a precedent  
12 unless it has been approved by the Supreme Court for publication in  
13 the official reporter. The Supreme Court shall prescribe by rule  
14 which opinion or decision, if any, of the Court of Civil Appeals  
15 shall be published in the unofficial reporter.

16 D. The jurisdiction, powers, duties and procedures of the Court  
17 of Civil Appeals shall be as provided by rules of the Supreme Court  
18 unless otherwise provided by statute.

19 E. No judicial officer, except as otherwise authorized by law,  
20 temporarily assigned to sit on the Court of Civil Appeals shall be  
21 entitled to additional compensation for judicial service on that  
22 Court. Expenses of judicial officers and lawyers assigned to the  
23 Court of Civil Appeals incurred in performing their duties shall be

24

1 reimbursed pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section  
2 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

3 F. The Supreme Court shall prescribe by rule the scope of  
4 review it will afford when a petition for certiorari to the Court of  
5 Civil Appeals is filed.

6 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 85A O.S. 2021, Section 122, as  
7 amended by Section 1, Chapter 19, 1st Extraordinary Session, O.S.L.  
8 2023 (85A O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 122), is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 Section 122. A. The Workers' Compensation Commission Revolving  
11 Fund established by Section 28.1 of this title shall be used for the  
12 costs of administering the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act  
13 and for other purposes as authorized by law.

14 B. For the purpose of providing funds for the Workers'  
15 Compensation Commission Revolving Fund, for the Workers'  
16 Compensation Court of Existing Claims Administrative Fund (CECAF)  
17 created in Section 401.1 of this title, for the Multiple Injury  
18 Trust Fund created in Section 28 of this title, and to fund other  
19 provisions within this title, the following tax rates shall apply:

20 1. Each mutual or interinsurance association, stock company,  
21 CompSource Mutual Insurance Company or other insurance carrier  
22 writing workers' compensation insurance in this state shall pay to  
23 the Oklahoma Tax Commission an assessment at a rate of one percent  
24 (1%) of all gross direct premiums written during each quarter of the

1 calendar year for workers' compensation insurance on risks located  
2 in this state after deducting from such gross direct premiums,  
3 return premiums, unabsorbed portions of any deposit premiums, policy  
4 dividends, safety refunds, savings and other similar returns paid or  
5 credited to policyholders. Such payments to the Oklahoma Tax  
6 Commission shall be made not later than the fifteenth day of the  
7 month following the close of each quarter of the calendar year in  
8 which such gross direct premium is collected or collectible.

9 Contributions made by insurance carriers and CompSource Mutual  
10 Insurance Company, under the provisions of this section, shall be  
11 considered for the purpose of computing workers' compensation rates;  
12 and

13 2. When an employer is authorized to become a self-insurer, the  
14 Workers' Compensation Commission shall ~~se~~ notify the Oklahoma Tax  
15 Commission, ~~giving~~ and give the effective date of such  
16 authorization. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall then assess and  
17 collect from the employers carrying their own risk an assessment at  
18 the rate of two percent (2%) of the total compensation for permanent  
19 total disability awards, permanent partial disability awards and  
20 death benefits paid out during each quarter of the calendar year by  
21 the employers. Such assessment shall be payable by the employers  
22 and collected by the Oklahoma Tax Commission according to the  
23 provisions of this section regarding payment and collection of the  
24 assessment created in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

1 C. It shall be the duty of the Oklahoma Tax Commission to  
2 collect the payments provided for in this title. The Oklahoma Tax  
3 Commission is hereby authorized to bring an action for the recovery  
4 of any delinquent or unpaid payments required in this section. The  
5 Oklahoma Tax Commission may also enforce payments by proceeding in  
6 accordance with the provisions of Section 98 of this title.

7 D. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall pay monthly to the State  
8 Treasurer to the credit of the Multiple Injury Trust Fund all monies  
9 collected under the provisions of this section, less the annual  
10 amounts which shall be apportioned by the Oklahoma Tax Commission,  
11 first to the Workers' Compensation Commission Revolving Fund, as  
12 follows; provided, however, if the fund in any one month is  
13 insufficient to make the required payments, the unpaid portion shall  
14 be paid as soon as funds become available:

15 1. Five Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$5,500,000.00)  
16 shall be payable each fiscal year in equal monthly installments to  
17 the credit of the Workers' Compensation Commission Revolving Fund  
18 established in Section 28.1 of this title to be used to implement  
19 the provisions of this title; and

20 2. ~~One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars~~  
21 ~~(\$1,750,000.00) shall be payable in equal monthly installments to~~  
22 ~~the credit of the Workers' Compensation Administrative Fund~~  
23 ~~established in Section 401.1 of this title for the fiscal year~~  
24 ~~ending June 30, 2023, and Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars~~

1 (\$250,000.00) shall be payable in equal monthly installments to such  
2 fund the credit of the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing  
3 Claims Administrative Fund (CECAF) for the fiscal year beginning  
4 July 1, 2023, and each subsequent fiscal year.

5 ~~Monies~~ As of July 1, 2024, the balance of monies in the CEC  
6 Revolving Fund and monies deposited in the Workers' Compensation  
7 Court of Existing Claims Administrative Fund (CECAF) shall be used  
8 by the Administrative Director of the Courts to fund all expenses  
9 associated with the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims  
10 trial judge and all three-judge en banc panel appeals adjudicated by  
11 the CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals to implement  
12 provisions provided for in this title. All unencumbered funds  
13 remaining in the Workers' Compensation Administration Fund on July  
14 1, 2027, shall be transferred to the State Treasurer to be returned  
15 to the Multiple Injury Trust Fund.

16 E. The refund provisions of Sections 227 through 229 of Title  
17 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be applicable to any payments made  
18 pursuant to this section.

19 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 85A O.S. 2021, Section 400, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 400. A. The Workers' Compensation Court ~~shall be~~  
22 ~~renamed the Workers' Compensation Court~~ of Existing Claims ~~for the~~  
23 ~~purpose of hearing~~ (CEC) shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all  
24 disputes relating to claims that arise before February 1, 2014. The



1 ~~Court shall consist of the existing judges for the remainder of his~~  
2 ~~or her term. Each judge of the Court shall continue to serve as the~~  
3 ~~appointment to a designated position on the Court. The terms of the~~  
4 ~~judges by position number shall expire on the following dates:~~

5 ~~Position 4 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

6 ~~Position 5 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

7 ~~Position 8 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

8 ~~Position 9 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

9 B. Effective July 1, 2020 2024, the Workers' Compensation Court  
10 of Existing Claims shall consist of one judge to be appointed by the  
11 Governor, with confirmation by the Senate. The judge shall be  
12 appointed for a term to expire on July 1, 2022. The Governor shall  
13 select the judge from a list of three applicants submitted to the  
14 Governor by the Judicial Nominating Commission. If the list is not  
15 acceptable to the Governor, the Governor may request from the  
16 Judicial Nominating Commission a list of names of three additional  
17 applicants. Any present judge of the Court of Existing Claims may  
18 apply to the Judicial Nominating Commission for appointment to fill  
19 any position authorized by this section Chief Justice of the Supreme  
20 Court from a list of retired judges on a rotational basis. An  
21 active retired judge appointed to serve as a CEC trial judge may  
22 receive per diem and travel reimbursement as authorized by  
23 subsection F of Section 1104B of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes.  
24 A judge serving on the CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals

1 shall receive no additional compensation other than the compensation  
2 provided by law.

3 C. ~~A judge may be removed for cause by the Court on the~~  
4 ~~Judiciary prior to the expiration of his or her term.~~

5 D. ~~Each judge shall receive a salary equal to that paid to a~~  
6 ~~district judge of this state, and shall devote full time to his or~~  
7 ~~her duties and shall not engage in the private practice of law~~  
8 ~~during the term in office.~~

9 E. ~~If a vacancy occurs on the Court of Existing Claims, the~~  
10 ~~Governor shall appoint a judge to serve the remainder of the term~~  
11 ~~from a list of three applicants submitted to the Governor by the~~  
12 ~~Judicial Nominating Commission, with confirmation of the State~~  
13 ~~Senate. If the list is not acceptable to the Governor, the Governor~~  
14 ~~may request from the Judicial Nominating Commission a list of the~~  
15 ~~names of three additional applicants.~~

16 F. 1. ~~Effective January 1, 2020, the Governor shall appoint an~~  
17 ~~July 1, 2024, the position of the Administrator of the Court of~~  
18 ~~Existing Claims, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~  
19 ~~The Administrator shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice~~  
20 ~~and consent of the Senate. The compensation for the Administrator~~  
21 ~~shall be set at ninety percent (90%) of the compensation of a~~  
22 ~~district court judge shall terminate. All administrative duties of~~  
23 ~~the CEC shall be transferred to the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation~~  
24 ~~Commission including docketing, filing, preparation of appellate~~

1 records, preparation of orders, and all other duties previously  
2 performed by the Administrator and the court clerk of the CEC. The  
3 Commission shall provide the use of a courtroom to the CEC judge to  
4 conduct hearings on claims for compensation and other proceedings.

5 2. All judicial functions of the CEC shall remain under the  
6 authority of the Supreme Court. The Administrator shall employ and  
7 supervise the work of employees of the Court and shall have the  
8 authority to expend funds and contract on behalf of the Court  
9 Administrative Director of the Courts shall assist the Commission  
10 with the transfer of any duties determined to be judicial functions.

11 The Administrator may Director shall contract with the Workers'  
12 Compensation Commission to provide support services or personnel  
13 needs necessary to carry out the purposes of the Court CEC and shall  
14 supervise the work of any such personnel as necessary to maintain  
15 the Court CEC as a Court court of Record record. The Director shall  
16 assist the CEC trial judge and the CEC Division of the Court of  
17 Civil Appeals as needed and may expend funds for personnel,  
18 contracts for court reporting, and other support services.

19 G. D. The Court of Existing Claims shall contract with the  
20 Workers' Compensation Commission to integrate its shall maintain the  
21 case management and records Information Technology System into  
22 information technology system of the CEC as part of the system of  
23 the Workers' Compensation Commission with such integration to be  
24 completed on or before July 1, 2022 and such system shall be

1 utilized by the CEC trial judge. The ~~Court~~ Commission shall be  
2 entitled to any fees generated for the retrieval of such data. The  
3 Director shall enter into an agreement with the Commission for the  
4 CEC to share in the cost for annual maintenance attributed to case  
5 management, docketing, and recordkeeping on behalf of the CEC.

6 E. The non-CEC case management system, docketing, appellate  
7 records, and other records maintained in the normal course of  
8 business of the Court of Civil Appeals shall remain with the  
9 Oklahoma Court Information System (OCIS) of the Supreme Court. The  
10 Director may contract and expend funds as needed to modify the OCIS  
11 to support the CEC trial judge and the CEC Division of the Court of  
12 Civil Appeals.

13 H. F. The ~~Court~~ CEC shall operate by the rules adopted by the  
14 Workers' Compensation Court prior to February 1, 2014. The CEC  
15 Division of the Court of Civil Appeals shall adopt rules of practice  
16 and procedure for appeals to the CEC Division.

17 I. G. The ~~Court is hereby designated and confirmed~~ CEC shall  
18 continue as a court of record, with respect to any matter within the  
19 limits of its jurisdiction, and within such limits the judges  
20 thereof shall possess the powers and prerogatives of the judges of  
21 the other courts of record of this state including the power to  
22 punish for contempt those persons who disobey a subpoena, or refuse  
23 to be sworn or to answer as a witness, when lawfully ordered to do  
24 so. Any party to a hearing on a claim for compensation before the

1 CEC trial judge or the CEC Division shall be entitled to the  
2 services of a court reporter. The cost of transcripts shall be  
3 borne by the requesting party unless otherwise determined by order  
4 of the CEC trial judge.

5 ~~J. H. The principal office of the Court shall be situated in~~  
6 ~~the City of Oklahoma City in quarters assigned by the Office of~~  
7 ~~Management and Enterprise Services~~ Director shall contract with the  
8 Commission for office and courtroom space for the CEC trial judge.  
9 ~~The Court~~ CEC trial judge may hold hearings and other proceedings in  
10 ~~any city of this state~~ facilities provided by the Director or the  
11 Commission.

12 ~~K. All county commissioners and presiding district judges of~~  
13 ~~this state shall make quarters available for the conducting of~~  
14 ~~hearings by a judge of the Court upon request by the Court.~~

15 ~~L. Judges of the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims~~  
16 ~~may punish for direct contempt pursuant to Sections 565, 565.1 and~~  
17 ~~566 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.~~

18 ~~M. I. 1.~~ The Court CEC trial judge shall be vested with  
19 jurisdiction over all claims filed pursuant to the Workers'  
20 Compensation Code or previous statute in effect on the date of an  
21 injury that occurred before February 1, 2014. All claims so filed  
22 shall be heard by the judge sitting without a jury. ~~The Court~~ CEC  
23 trial judge shall have full power and authority to determine all  
24 questions in relation to payment of claims for compensation under

1 the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Code or previous statute  
2 in effect on the date of an injury that occurred before February 1,  
3 2014.

4 2. The Court, upon application of either party, shall order a  
5 hearing. Upon a hearing, either Commission shall coordinate with  
6 the Director to schedule a docket for hearings on claims for  
7 compensation and other proceedings requested by either party,  
8 including all cases pending on the effective date of this act.  
9 Hearings on claims for compensation and other proceedings may be  
10 conducted in person or remotely at the discretion of the CEC trial  
11 judge. The CEC trial judge may conduct other proceedings on  
12 preliminary or supplemental matters as needed. If any claim or  
13 proceeding is assigned to the Commission by the CEC trial judge for  
14 a preliminary review, the chair of the Commission may assign the  
15 matter to any Commission administrative law judge (ALJ), or other  
16 hearing officer. Any party may present evidence and be represented  
17 by counsel before the CEC trial judge, the ALJ, or other hearing  
18 officer.

19 3. Upon receipt of the recommendation of the ALJ or other  
20 hearing officer, any party may request a de novo rehearing with the  
21 CEC trial judge or may waive the rehearing. If both parties waive  
22 the rehearing, any recommendation by the ALJ or other hearing  
23 officer shall not become a final determination until approved by  
24

1 order of the CEC trial judge. Only the final order based upon the  
2 decision of the CEC trial judge shall be appealable.

3 4. The decision of the ~~Court~~ CEC trial judge shall be final as  
4 to all questions of fact and law; provided, the decision of the  
5 ~~Court~~ CEC trial judge may be appealed to the CEC Division of the  
6 Court ~~en banc~~ of Civil Appeals within ten (10) days or the Supreme  
7 Court as provided by the Workers' Compensation Code or previous  
8 statute in effect on the date of an injury that occurred before  
9 February 1, 2014. ~~In the event that an insufficient number of~~  
10 ~~active judges are available to comprise the three-judge en banc~~  
11 ~~panel, retired or former judges of the district court, Workers'~~  
12 ~~Compensation Court or Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims~~  
13 ~~may be designated by the Presiding Judge of the Court of Existing~~  
14 ~~Claims as eligible to serve on such panel. The Governor shall~~  
15 ~~provide to the Court of Existing Claims a list of designated judges~~  
16 ~~eligible for service on the Court en banc~~ The Commission shall  
17 coordinate with the Director to schedule a docket for hearings on  
18 appeals to the CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals, including  
19 all cases pending on the effective date of this act. The parties  
20 may appeal a decision of the CEC Division to the Supreme Court as  
21 provided by the Supreme Court rules in the same manner as from the  
22 three-judge en banc panel. The decision of the ~~Court~~ CEC trial  
23 judge shall be issued within thirty (30) days following the  
24 submission of the case by the parties. The power and jurisdiction

1 of the ~~Court~~ CEC trial judge over each case shall be continuing and  
2 ~~it~~ he or she may, from time to time, make such modifications or  
3 changes with respect to former findings or orders relating thereto  
4 if, in ~~its~~ his or her opinion, it may be justified.

5 ~~N. J.~~ For an injury occurring before February 1, 2014, all  
6 benefits and procedures to obtain benefits shall be determined by  
7 the workers' compensation law of this state in effect on the date of  
8 the injury.

9 ~~O. K.~~ All accrued rights and penalties incurred pursuant to a  
10 final order of the ~~Workers' Compensation Court~~ CEC trial judge shall  
11 be preserved. No accrued right, penalty incurred, or proceeding  
12 begun by virtue of a statute repealed by this act shall be abrogated  
13 by the terms of this act.

14 ~~P. Annually, on~~

15 L. 1. On or before the first day of July 1 of each year,  
16 ~~commencing with July 2019,~~ the Administrator of the Commission shall  
17 prepare and electronically submit a report for the prior calendar  
18 year to the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the  
19 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
20 Representatives which shall include a statement of the number of  
21 awards made and the causes of the accidents leading to the injuries  
22 for which the awards were made, total work load data of the ~~Court,~~  
23 ~~detailed report of the work load of the judges of the Court~~ CEC  
24 trial judge, a detailed statement of the expenses of the ~~office of~~



1 ~~the Administrator of Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims~~  
2 Commission for all administrative duties performed on behalf of the  
3 CEC, together with any other matter which the Administrator  
4 Commission deems proper to report to the Governor including any  
5 recommendations he or she may desire to make.

6 2. On or before July 1 of each year, the Director shall  
7 electronically submit to the officials listed in paragraph 1 of this  
8 subsection a report for the prior calendar year which shall include  
9 the total workload of the CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals  
10 and a detailed statement of expenses incurred because of three-judge  
11 en banc panel appeals.

12 ~~Q. M. Subject to the availability of funds, the Judge of the~~  
13 ~~Court of Existing Claims Director may enter into a contract to~~  
14 ~~employ one at-will full- or part-time special workers' compensation~~  
15 ~~judge with jurisdiction to hear cases as set forth in subsection M~~  
16 ~~of this section and as may be assigned by the Judge. The special~~  
17 ~~workers' compensation judge shall receive compensation for such~~  
18 ~~services in accordance with the provisions of Section 92.1A of Title~~  
19 ~~20 of the Oklahoma Statutes attorney to assist parties without~~  
20 ~~representation with duties and assignments to be determined by the~~  
21 CEC trial judge and Director.

22 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 85A O.S. 2021, Section 401, is  
23 amended to read as follows:  
24

1 Section 401. ~~There is hereby created in the State Treasury a~~  
2 ~~revolving fund for the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing~~  
3 ~~Claims to be designated the "Workers' Compensation Court of Existing~~  
4 ~~Claims Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not~~  
5 ~~subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all All~~  
6 monies received by the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing  
7 Claims (CEC) from all filing fees, fees related to the preparation  
8 of appeals from the CEC, records search fees, and penalties and  
9 fines imposed by the ~~Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims~~  
10 ~~or its~~ CEC trial judge and collected by the Administrator of the  
11 Workers' Compensation Commission shall be deposited in the Workers'  
12 Compensation Commission Revolving Fund. All monies accruing to the  
13 credit of ~~said~~ the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted  
14 and expended by the ~~Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims~~  
15 Commission for the ~~purpose of defraying~~ necessary expenses of the  
16 Commission in performing administrative duties on behalf of the  
17 Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims ~~in performance of its~~  
18 ~~duties~~ including filing new claims, docketing, maintaining records,  
19 preparing records for appeal, and preparation of orders.  
20 Expenditures from ~~said~~ the fund shall be made upon warrants issued  
21 by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law  
22 with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise  
23 Services for approval and payment.

24

1 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 85A O.S. 2021, Section 401.1, is  
2 amended to read as follows:  
3 Section 401.1. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a  
4 revolving fund for the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing  
5 Claims (CEC) to be designated the "Workers' Compensation Court of  
6 Existing Claims Administrative Fund (CECAF)". The fund shall be a  
7 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall  
8 consist of all monies received by the ~~Workers' Compensation Court of~~  
9 ~~Existing Claims~~ CEC from revenues apportioned pursuant to Section  
10 122 of ~~Title 85A of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title prior to the  
11 effective date of this act. All monies accruing to the credit of  
12 ~~said~~ the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and  
13 expended by the ~~Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims~~ for  
14 ~~the purpose of funding~~ Administrative Director of the Courts to fund  
15 ~~the operations of the Court, for administering~~ and all expenses  
16 associated with the CEC trial judge and all three-judge en banc  
17 panel appeals adjudicated by the CEC Division of the Court of Civil  
18 Appeals and to administer the provisions of Titles 85 and 85A of the  
19 Oklahoma Statutes, ~~and for any other purpose related to the~~  
20 ~~Administrative Workers' Compensation Act that the Court deems~~  
21 ~~appropriate.~~ Expenditures from ~~said~~ the fund shall be made upon  
22 warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as  
23 prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and  
24 Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

2 SECTION 7. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
3 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
4 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
5 be in full force from and after its passage and approval."

6 Passed the House of Representatives the 25th day of April, 2024.

7

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9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the House of  
10 Representatives

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11 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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14 \_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the Senate

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1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 1456

By: Treat of the Senate

3 and

4 Kannady of the House

5  
6 [ Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims -  
7 divisions - jurisdiction - costs - duty - appointment  
8 - rules - authority - appeal - report - funds -  
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emergency ]

9

10

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2021, Section 30.14, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 30.14. A. 1. In addition to the provisions of  
15 Sections 30.1 through ~~30.12~~ 30.19 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma  
16 Statutes, and in addition to the four permanent divisions  
17 established by Section 30.2 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes,  
18 the Court of Civil Appeals shall consist of as many additional  
19 divisions as the Supreme Court may deem advisable to convene for  
20 prompt disposition of its docket. Each division shall consist of  
21 three Judges, at least two of whom shall concur in any decision. In  
22 the exercise of its powers granted by Article VII, Section 6 of the  
23 Oklahoma Constitution, the Supreme Court shall make temporary  
24 assignments of judicial officers, active or retired, and lawyers,

1 having prior to their assignment the qualifications of a district  
2 judge, to sit on a division of the Court of Civil Appeals convened  
3 under the authority of this ~~act~~ section. Each division of the Court  
4 of Civil Appeals shall select its presiding Judge. The Supreme  
5 Court may prescribe by rule where the division shall sit and how  
6 that Court shall conduct its business and practice before it.

7 2. The Court of Civil Appeals shall establish a division to be  
8 referred to as the Court of Existing Claims (CEC) Division of the  
9 Court of Civil Appeals which shall be vested with jurisdiction over  
10 all claims filed pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Code or  
11 previous statute in effect on the date of an injury that occurred  
12 before February 1, 2014. In no event does the CEC Division have  
13 jurisdiction over any claim arising on or after the effective date  
14 of this act.

15 B. Each division of the Court of Civil Appeals convened under  
16 the authority of this ~~act~~ section shall have jurisdiction to  
17 determine or otherwise dispose of any case assigned to it by the  
18 Supreme Court, and its decisions, when final, shall be neither  
19 appealable to the Supreme Court nor be subject to reexamination by  
20 another division of the Court of Civil Appeals or by the Judges of  
21 that Court sitting en banc. The Supreme Court may recall a case  
22 from the Court of Civil Appeals; it may review a decision of the  
23 Court of Civil Appeals when a majority of its Justices direct that  
24 certiorari be granted. In any case assigned to it by the Supreme

1 Court, the Court of Civil Appeals shall have the power to issue  
2 writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto, certiorari, and  
3 prohibition.

4 C. The opinions of the Court of Civil Appeals shall be written  
5 in the form prescribed by the Supreme Court. No opinion of the  
6 Court of Civil Appeals shall be binding or cited as a precedent  
7 unless it has been approved by the Supreme Court for publication in  
8 the official reporter. The Supreme Court shall prescribe by rule  
9 which opinion or decision, if any, of the Court of Civil Appeals  
10 shall be published in the unofficial reporter.

11 D. The jurisdiction, powers, duties and procedures of the Court  
12 of Civil Appeals shall be as provided by rules of the Supreme Court  
13 unless otherwise provided by statute.

14 E. No judicial officer, except as otherwise authorized by law,  
15 temporarily assigned to sit on the Court of Civil Appeals shall be  
16 entitled to additional compensation for judicial service on that  
17 Court. Expenses of judicial officers and lawyers assigned to the  
18 Court of Civil Appeals incurred in performing their duties shall be  
19 reimbursed pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act, Section  
20 500.1 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

21 F. The Supreme Court shall prescribe by rule the scope of  
22 review it will afford when a petition for certiorari to the Court of  
23 Civil Appeals is filed.

24

1 SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 85A O.S. 2021, Section 122, as  
2 amended by Section 1, Chapter 19, 1st Extraordinary Session, O.S.L.  
3 2023 (85A O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 122), is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 Section 122. A. The Workers' Compensation Commission Revolving  
6 Fund established by Section 28.1 of this title shall be used for the  
7 costs of administering the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act  
8 and for other purposes as authorized by law.

9 B. For the purpose of providing funds for the Workers'  
10 Compensation Commission Revolving Fund, for the Workers'  
11 Compensation Court of Existing Claims (CEC) Division of the Court of  
12 Civil Appeals Administrative Fund created in Section 401.1 of this  
13 title, for the Multiple Injury Trust Fund created in Section 28 of  
14 this title, and to fund other provisions within this title, the  
15 following tax rates shall apply:

16 1. Each mutual or interinsurance association, stock company,  
17 CompSource Mutual Insurance Company or other insurance carrier  
18 writing workers' compensation insurance in this state shall pay to  
19 the Oklahoma Tax Commission an assessment at a rate of one percent  
20 (1%) of all gross direct premiums written during each quarter of the  
21 calendar year for workers' compensation insurance on risks located  
22 in this state after deducting from such gross direct premiums,  
23 return premiums, unabsorbed portions of any deposit premiums, policy  
24 dividends, safety refunds, savings and other similar returns paid or



1 credited to policyholders. Such payments to the Oklahoma Tax  
2 Commission shall be made not later than the fifteenth day of the  
3 month following the close of each quarter of the calendar year in  
4 which such gross direct premium is collected or collectible.

5 Contributions made by insurance carriers and CompSource Mutual  
6 Insurance Company, under the provisions of this section, shall be  
7 considered for the purpose of computing workers' compensation rates;  
8 and

9 2. When an employer is authorized to become a self-insurer, the  
10 Commission shall so notify the Oklahoma Tax Commission, giving the  
11 effective date of such authorization. The Oklahoma Tax Commission  
12 shall then assess and collect from the employers carrying their own  
13 risk an assessment at the rate of two percent (2%) of the total  
14 compensation for permanent total disability awards, permanent  
15 partial disability awards and death benefits paid out during each  
16 quarter of the calendar year by the employers. Such assessment  
17 shall be payable by the employers and collected by the Oklahoma Tax  
18 Commission according to the provisions of this section regarding  
19 payment and collection of the assessment created in paragraph 1 of  
20 this subsection.

21 C. It shall be the duty of the Oklahoma Tax Commission to  
22 collect the payments provided for in this title. The Oklahoma Tax  
23 Commission is hereby authorized to bring an action for the recovery  
24 of any delinquent or unpaid payments required in this section. The

1 Oklahoma Tax Commission may also enforce payments by proceeding in  
2 accordance with the provisions of Section 98 of this title.

3 D. The Oklahoma Tax Commission shall pay monthly to the State  
4 Treasurer to the credit of the Multiple Injury Trust Fund all monies  
5 collected under the provisions of this section, less the annual  
6 amounts which shall be apportioned by the Oklahoma Tax Commission,  
7 as follows; provided, however, if the fund in any one month is  
8 insufficient to make the required payments, the unpaid portion shall  
9 be paid as soon as funds become available:

10 1. Five Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$5,500,000.00)  
11 shall be payable each fiscal year in equal monthly installments to  
12 the credit of the Workers' Compensation Commission Revolving Fund  
13 established in Section 28.1 of this title to be used to implement  
14 the provisions of this title; and

15 2. One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars  
16 (\$1,750,000.00) shall be payable in equal monthly installments to  
17 the credit of the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims  
18 (CEC) Division of the Court of Civil Appeals Administrative Fund  
19 established in Section 401.1 of this title for the fiscal year  
20 ending June 30, 2023, and Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars  
21 (\$250,000.00) payable in equal monthly installments to such fund for  
22 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and each subsequent fiscal  
23 year.

24

1 Monies deposited in the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing  
2 Claims (CEC) Division of the Court of Civil Appeals Administrative  
3 Fund shall be used by the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing  
4 Claims (CEC) Division to implement provisions provided for in this  
5 title. All unencumbered funds remaining in the Workers'  
6 Compensation Administration Court of Existing Claims (CEC) Division  
7 of the Court of Criminal Appeals Administrative Fund on July 1,  
8 2027, shall be transferred to the State Treasurer to be returned to  
9 the Multiple Injury Trust Fund.

10 E. The refund provisions of Sections 227 through 229 of Title  
11 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be applicable to any payments made  
12 pursuant to this section.

13 SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 85A O.S. 2021, Section 400, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 400. A. The Workers' Compensation Court of Existing  
16 Claims (CEC) shall be renamed the ~~Workers' Compensation~~ Court of  
17 Existing Claims (CEC) Division of the Court of Civil Appeals as  
18 established by Section 30.14 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes  
19 for the purpose of hearing disputes relating to claims that ~~arise~~  
20 arose before February 1, 2014. ~~The Court shall consist of the~~  
21 ~~existing judges for the remainder of his or her term. Each judge of~~  
22 ~~the Court shall continue to serve as the appointment to a designated~~  
23 ~~position on the Court. The terms of the judges by position number~~  
24 ~~shall expire on the following dates:~~

1 ~~Position 4 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

2 ~~Position 5 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

3 ~~Position 8 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

4 ~~Position 9 shall expire 7-1-20.~~

5 B. ~~Effective July 1, 2020~~ July 1, 2024, the ~~Workers'~~  
6 ~~Compensation Court of Existing Claims~~ CEC Division of the Court of  
7 Civil Appeals shall consist of one judge ~~to be appointed by the~~  
8 ~~Governor, with confirmation by the Senate. The judge shall be~~  
9 ~~appointed for a term to expire on July 1, 2022. The Governor shall~~  
10 ~~select the judge from a list of three applicants submitted to the~~  
11 ~~Governor by the Judicial Nominating Commission. If the list is not~~  
12 ~~acceptable to the Governor, the Governor may request from the~~  
13 ~~Judicial Nominating Commission a list of names of three additional~~  
14 ~~applicants. Any present judge of the Court of Existing Claims may~~  
15 ~~apply to the Judicial Nominating Commission for appointment to fill~~  
16 ~~any position authorized by this section~~ who currently serves as a  
17 member of the Court of Civil Appeals on a rotational basis as  
18 determined by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Such  
19 appointment shall be a two-year term to run concurrently with the  
20 Chief Justice, and shall be an additional duty requirement.

21 C. ~~A judge may be removed for cause by the Court on the~~  
22 ~~Judiciary prior to the expiration of his or her term.~~

23 D. ~~Each judge shall receive a salary equal to that paid to a~~  
24 ~~district judge of this state, and shall devote full time to his or~~

1 ~~her duties and shall not engage in the private practice of law~~  
2 ~~during the term in office.~~

3 ~~E. If a vacancy occurs on the Court of Existing Claims, the~~  
4 ~~Governor shall appoint a judge to serve the remainder of the term~~  
5 ~~from a list of three applicants submitted to the Governor by the~~  
6 ~~Judicial Nominating Commission, with confirmation of the State~~  
7 ~~Senate. If the list is not acceptable to the Governor, the Governor~~  
8 ~~may request from the Judicial Nominating Commission a list of the~~  
9 ~~names of three additional applicants.~~

10 ~~F. 1. Effective January 1, 2020 July 1, 2024, the Governor~~  
11 ~~shall appoint an appointment of the Administrator of the Court of~~  
12 ~~Existing Claims, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~  
13 ~~The Administrator shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice~~  
14 ~~and consent of the Senate. The compensation for the Administrator~~  
15 ~~shall be set at ninety percent (90%) of the compensation of a~~  
16 ~~district court judge shall terminate, with all duties to be assumed~~  
17 ~~by the Administrative Director of the Courts.~~

18 2. The ~~Administrator~~ Director shall employ and supervise the  
19 work of employees of the CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals  
20 and shall have the authority to expend funds and contract on behalf  
21 of the ~~Court~~ CEC Division. The ~~Administrator~~ Director may contract  
22 with the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission to provide  
23 support services or personnel needs necessary to carry out the  
24 purposes of the ~~Court~~ CEC Division and shall supervise the work of

1 any such personnel as necessary to maintain the CEC Division of the  
2 Court of Civil Appeals as a Court of Record.

3 ~~G.~~ D. The CEC Division of the Court of Existing Claims Civil  
4 Appeals shall contract with the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation  
5 Commission to integrate its case management and records Information  
6 Technology System into the system of the Oklahoma Workers'  
7 Compensation Commission with such integration to be completed on or  
8 before ~~July 1, 2022~~ July 1, 2024. The CEC Division shall contract  
9 with the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission to pay for the  
10 cost of such integration and costs associated with the maintenance  
11 and upgrades to the system. The ~~Court~~ Commission shall be entitled  
12 to any fees generated for the retrieval of such data.

13 ~~H.~~ E. The ~~Court~~ CEC Division shall operate by the rules adopted  
14 by the Workers' Compensation Court prior to February 1, 2014.

15 ~~I.~~ F. The Court of Civil Appeals is hereby designated and  
16 confirmed as a court of record for any and all cases of the Court of  
17 Existing Claims Division, with respect to any matter within the  
18 limits of its jurisdiction, and within such limits the judges  
19 thereof shall possess the powers and prerogatives of the judges of  
20 the other courts of record of this state including the power to  
21 punish for contempt those persons who disobey a subpoena, or refuse  
22 to be sworn or to answer as a witness, when lawfully ordered to do  
23 so.

24

1        ~~J. G.~~ The ~~principal office~~ CEC Division of the Court ~~shall be~~  
2 ~~situated in the City of Oklahoma City in quarters assigned by the~~  
3 ~~Office of Management and Enterprise Services. The Court of Civil~~  
4 Appeals may hold hearings in any city of this state.

5        ~~K. H.~~ All county commissioners, ~~and~~ presiding district judges  
6 of this state, or institutions of higher education shall make  
7 quarters available for the conducting of hearings by a judge of the  
8 ~~Court~~ CEC Division upon request by the Court.

9        ~~L. I.~~ ~~Judges~~ The designated judge of the ~~Workers' Compensation~~  
10 CEC Division of the Court of Existing Claims Civil Appeals may  
11 punish for direct contempt pursuant to Sections 565, 565.1 and 566  
12 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

13        ~~M. J.~~ The CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals as  
14 established by Section 30.14 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes  
15 shall be vested with jurisdiction over all claims filed pursuant to  
16 the Workers' Compensation Code or previous statute in effect on the  
17 date of an injury that occurred before February 1, 2014. In no  
18 event does the CEC Division have jurisdiction over any claim arising  
19 on or after the effective date of this act. All claims so filed  
20 shall be heard by the judge sitting without a jury. The ~~Court~~ CEC  
21 Division shall have full power and authority to determine all  
22 questions in relation to payment of claims for compensation under  
23 the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Code or previous statute  
24 in effect on the date of an injury that occurred before February 1,

1 2014. The ~~Court~~ CEC Division, upon application of either party,  
2 shall order a hearing. Upon a hearing, either party may present  
3 evidence and be represented by counsel. The decision of the ~~Court~~  
4 designated judge of the CEC Division shall be final as to all  
5 questions of fact and law; provided, the decision of the ~~Court~~ judge  
6 may be appealed to ~~the~~ a division of the Court en-banc of Civil  
7 Appeals of which the judge is not a member, or the Supreme Court as  
8 provided by the Workers' Compensation Code or previous statute in  
9 effect on the date of an injury that occurred before February 1,  
10 2014. ~~In the event that an insufficient number of active judges are~~  
11 ~~available to comprise the three-judge en banc panel, retired or~~  
12 ~~former judges of the district court, Workers' Compensation Court or~~  
13 ~~Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims may be designated by~~  
14 ~~the Presiding Judge of the Court of Existing Claims as eligible to~~  
15 ~~serve on such panel. The Governor shall provide to the Court of~~  
16 ~~Existing Claims a list of designated judges eligible for service on~~  
17 ~~the Court en banc.~~ The decision of the ~~Court~~ judge of the CEC  
18 Division shall be issued within thirty (30) days following the  
19 submission of the case by the parties. The power and jurisdiction  
20 of the Court over each case shall be continuing and it may, from  
21 time to time, make such modifications or changes with respect to  
22 former findings or orders relating thereto if, in its opinion, it  
23 may be justified.

24



1       ~~N.~~ K. For an injury occurring before February 1, 2014, all  
2 benefits and procedures to obtain benefits shall be determined by  
3 the workers' compensation law of this state in effect on the date of  
4 the injury.

5       ~~O.~~ L. All accrued rights and penalties incurred pursuant to a  
6 final order of the Workers' Compensation Court or the CEC Division  
7 of the Court of Civil Appeals shall be preserved. No accrued right,  
8 penalty incurred, or proceeding begun by virtue of a statute  
9 repealed by this act shall be abrogated by the terms of this act.

10       ~~P.~~ M. Annually, on or before the first day of July, commencing  
11 with July 2019, the ~~Administrator~~ Administrative Director of the  
12 Courts shall prepare and submit electronically a report for the  
13 prior calendar year to the Governor, the Chief Justice of the  
14 Supreme Court, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the  
15 Speaker of the House of Representatives which shall include a  
16 statement of the number of awards made and the causes of the  
17 accidents leading to the injuries for which the awards were made,  
18 total work load data of the CEC Division of the Court of Civil  
19 Appeals, a detailed report of the work load of the judges of the CEC  
20 Division of the Court, a detailed statement of the expenses of the  
21 ~~office of the Administrator of Workers' Compensation Court of~~  
22 ~~Existing Claims~~ CEC Division, together with any other matter which  
23 the ~~Administrator~~ Director deems proper to report to the Governor  
24 including any recommendations he or she may desire to make.

1       ~~Q. Subject to the availability of funds, the Judge of the Court~~  
2 ~~of Existing Claims may employ one at will full- or part-time special~~  
3 ~~workers' compensation judge with jurisdiction to hear cases as set~~  
4 ~~forth in subsection M of this section and as may be assigned by the~~  
5 ~~Judge. The special workers' compensation judge shall receive~~  
6 ~~compensation for such services in accordance with the provisions of~~  
7 ~~Section 92.1A of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes.~~

8       SECTION 11.        AMENDATORY        85A O.S. 2021, Section 401, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10       Section 401. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a  
11 revolving fund for the ~~Workers' Compensation~~ Court of Existing  
12 Claims (CEC) Division of the Court of Civil Appeals to be designated  
13 the "~~Workers' Compensation~~ Court of Existing Claims (CEC) Division  
14 of the Court of Civil Appeals Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a  
15 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall  
16 consist of all monies received by the ~~Workers' Compensation~~ CEC  
17 Division of the Court of ~~Existing Claims~~ Civil Appeals from all  
18 fees, penalties and fines imposed by the ~~Workers' Compensation~~ CEC  
19 Division of the Court of ~~Existing Claims~~ Civil Appeals or its  
20 ~~Administrator~~ the Administrative Director of the Courts. All monies  
21 accruing to the credit of ~~said~~ such fund are hereby appropriated and  
22 may be budgeted and expended by the ~~Workers' Compensation~~ CEC  
23 Division of the Court of ~~Existing Claims~~ Civil Appeals for the  
24 purpose of defraying necessary expenses of the ~~Workers' Compensation~~

1 ~~Court of Existing Claims~~ CEC Division in performance of its duties.  
2 Expenditures from ~~said~~ such fund shall be made upon warrants issued  
3 by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law  
4 with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise  
5 Services for approval and payment.

6 SECTION 12. AMENDATORY 85A O.S. 2021, Section 401.1, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 401.1. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a  
9 revolving fund for the ~~Workers' Compensation~~ Court of Existing  
10 Claims (CEC) Division of the Court of Civil Appeals to be designated  
11 the "~~Workers' Compensation~~ Court of Existing Claims (CEC) Division  
12 of the Court of Civil Appeals Administrative Fund". The fund shall  
13 be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and  
14 shall consist of all monies received by the Workers' Compensation  
15 Court of Existing Claims from revenues apportioned pursuant to  
16 Section 122 of Title 85A of the Oklahoma Statutes. All monies  
17 accruing to the credit of ~~said~~ such fund are hereby appropriated and  
18 may be budgeted and expended by the ~~Workers' Compensation~~ CEC  
19 Division of the Court of Existing Claims Civil Appeals for the  
20 purpose of ~~funding the operations of the Court, for~~ administering  
21 the provisions of Titles 85 and 85A of the Oklahoma Statutes,  
22 contracting with the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission to  
23 provide support services or personnel needs necessary to carry out  
24 the purposes of the CEC Division of the Court of Civil Appeals, and

1 for any other purpose related to the Administrative Workers'  
2 Compensation Act that the Court deems appropriate. Expenditures  
3 from ~~said~~ such fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State  
4 Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the  
5 Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for  
6 approval and payment.

7 SECTION 13. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

8 SECTION 14. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
9 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
10 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
11 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

12 Passed the Senate the 11th day of March, 2024.

13

14

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the Senate

15

16 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
17 2024.

18

19

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

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