



























April 23, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations 1021 O Street, Suite 8140 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2337 (Dixon) - Workers' compensation: Electronic Signatures

SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

The undersigned organizations are proud to **SUPPORT** your **AB 2337** which seeks to address a critical issue concerning the use of electronic signatures in proceedings before the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board (WCAB). AB 2337 would authorize the use of certain electronic signatures in workers' compensation proceedings on a permanent basis, a practice that was temporarily permitted by Governor Newsom's emergency order during the COVID-19 state of emergency. This measure is vital as it will ensure efficiency and consistency in WCAB proceedings.

The current requirement under the Labor Code mandates a compromise and release of a workers' compensation claim to contain the "signature" of the employee or other beneficiary, attested by two disinterested witnesses, or acknowledged before a notary public. During the COVID-19 state of emergency, WCAB temporarily authorized the use of electronic signatures on compromise and release forms. Unfortunately, when the state of emergency was lifted by the Governor, WCAB automatically rescinded the authorization for electronic signatures.

During the COVID-19 state of emergency, electronic signatures proved to be effective in workers' compensation proceedings. By making this practice permanent, AB 2337 improves the administrative efficiency of California's workers' compensation system.

For these reasons, we **SUPPORT AB 2337** as a sensible step forward in streamlining processes in the workers' compensation system.

Sincerely,

Acclamation Insurance Management Services (AIMS)
Allied Managed Care (AMC)
American Property Casualty Insurance Association
Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD)
California Association of Joint Powers Authorities
California Chamber of Commerce
California Coalition on Workers' Compensation
California Joint Powers Insurance Authority
California Special Districts Association
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities
Public Risk Innovation Solutions and Management
Urban Counties of California

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Committee on Appropriations