



March 15th, 2024

The Honorable Diane Dixon
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room 5330
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Assemblymember Dixon:

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 Unfortunately, when the state of emergency was lifted by the Governor, WCAB automatically rescinded the authorization for electronic signatures.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)
American Property Casualty Insurance Association
Allied Management Care (AMC)

Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD)
California Chamber of Commerce
California Coalition for Workers' Compensation
California Association of Joint Powers Authorities
California Joint Powers Insurance Authority
California Special Districts Association
California State Association of Counties
Public Risk Innovation Solutions and Management
Urban Counties of California

cc: The Honorable Lisa Calderon, Chair, Assembly Insurance Committee
The Honorable Ash Kalra, Chair, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Claire Wendt, Principal Consultant, Assembly Insurance Committee
Manuela Boucher, Staff Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee