

ENGROSSED SENATE  
BILL NO. 605

By: Wright, Campbell, Maddox,  
Shurden, Smith and  
Gustafson of the Senate

and

Ferguson of the House

[ Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit - number of fraud  
investigators -  
effective date ]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 27, Chapter 349, O.S.L.  
1993, as amended by Section 16, Chapter 1, O.S.L. 1994, 2nd  
Extraordinary Session, is amended to read as follows:

Section 18m-1. A. There is hereby created within the Office of  
the Attorney General a Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit.

B. The Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit, upon inquiry or  
complaint, shall determine the extent, if any, to which any  
violation has occurred of any statute or administrative rule of this  
state pertaining to workers' compensation fraud and may initiate any  
necessary investigation, civil action, criminal action, referral to  
the Insurance Commissioner or Insurance Department, referral to the  
Administrator of the Workers' Compensation Court, referral to a  
district attorney ~~or~~, referral to any appropriate official of this  
or any other state, or referral to any appropriate official of the  
federal government.

C. In the absence of fraud, bad faith, reckless disregard for  
the truth, or actual malice, no person, insurer, or agent of an

insurer, shall be liable for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal prosecution for communication, publication, or any other action taken to supply information about suspected workers' compensation fraud to the Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit or any other agency involved in the investigation or prosecution of suspected workers' compensation fraud.

D. The Attorney General and the Office of the Attorney General, the Insurance Commissioner and the Insurance Department, the Administrator of the Workers' Compensation Court, every district attorney, and every law enforcement agency shall cooperate and coordinate efforts for the investigation and prosecution of suspected workers' compensation fraud.

E. The Office of the Attorney General shall employ not less than fifteen full-time-equivalent investigators within the Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1995.

Passed the Senate the 8th day of March, 1995.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 1995.

Speaker of the House of Representatives