



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

### Division of Workers' Compensation - Legal Services (MS-4D)

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To: System Participants

From: Kara Mace, Deputy Commissioner, Legal Services

Date: June 4, 2020

RE: Rule Proposal to Amend 28 TAC §132.7

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) is accepting public comments on a proposed rule amending 28 Texas Administrative Code §132.7 to conform to Texas Labor Code §408.183. The Legislature amended Labor Code §408.183 under House Bill (HB) 2503, which went into effect September 1, 2019.

The proposed changes will align DWC's rules regarding the duration of death benefits with the statutory changes made by HB 2503. HB 2503 expanded eligibility of spouses who may receive death benefits for life, regardless of remarriage, to spouses of peace officers as described in Texas Code of Criminal Procedures Article 2.12 and intrastate fire mutual aid system team members or regional incident management team members. HB 2503 only applies to an eligible spouse who remarries on or after September 1, 2019.

The proposed rules will be published in the June 19, 2020, issue of the *Texas Register* and available at [www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml](http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml) once published. We will also post a copy of the proposed rules on the TDI website at: [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/rules/2020rules.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/rules/2020rules.html).

You may submit written comments on the proposed rules to:

[RuleComments@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:RuleComments@tdi.texas.gov), or by mailing or delivering your comments to:

Cynthia Guillen

DWC Legal Services, MS-4D

Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation

7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100

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The deadline to submit comments is 5 p.m., Central time, on Monday, July 20, 2020.