

Chapter 97

WORKERS' COMPENSATION-PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES

Original Senate File No. 25

AN ACT relating to workers' compensation; authorizing workers' compensation coverage for professional athletes; providing a definition; conforming a provision; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 27-14-102(a)(vii)(F) and by creating a new paragraph (xxix) and 27-14-108 by creating a new subsection (q) are amended to read:

27-14-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(vii) "Employee" means any person engaged in any extrahazardous employment under any appointment, contract of hire or apprenticeship, express or implied, oral or written, and includes legally employed minors and aliens authorized to work by the United States department of justice, immigration and naturalization service. "Employee" does not include:

(F) A professional athlete, except as provided in W.S. 27-14-108(q);

(xxix) "Professional athlete" means an individual who receives payment from a team owner for competing on a baseball, basketball, football, hockey or soccer team having its principal place of business in Wyoming.

27-14-108. Extrahazardous industries, employments, occupations; enumeration; definitions; optional coverage.

(q) A team owner shall obtain coverage under this act for professional athletes as defined in W.S. 27-14-102(a)(xxix). For the purpose of determining employer contributions under this act, all professional athletes for whom coverage is obtained are deemed to be paid, for each month during which competition or team practice is held, the average monthly wage most recently computed pursuant to W.S. 27-14-802(b). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the division shall classify professional athletes covered under this subsection under NAICS industry code number 711211, sports teams and clubs, and shall keep that classification separate for rate making purposes.

Section 2. This act is effective April 1, 2003.

Approved March 3, 2003.