

JULY 2021

# IN THE LOOP

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OFFICIAL NORTH CAROLINA RATE BUREAU AGENT NEWSLETTER



## HAPPY SUMMER!

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This summer is hopefully bringing back a normal routine for all of us. As the Bureau makes plans for our new normal, we are continuing our commitment to the insurance industry of North Carolina and making great strides towards the goals we set forth for 2021. Please take a few minutes to review this newsletter, as some of the content may impact your business and how you respond to the needs of your clients.

As always, reach out to the NCRB if you have further questions or concerns at (919)582-1056.

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## WORKERS COMPENSATION LEGISLATION

The Bureau monitors industry trends and regulatory activity that may impact workers compensation in North Carolina. There has been minimal legislative activity related to workers compensation in 2021. In North Carolina, the legislature alternates between a long session in odd number years, and a short session in even number years. During the short session, only certain types of legislation are eligible to be filed and only bills introduced in the long session that make the cross-over and veto overrides are considered. Although there was limited legislative activity in 2021, the following are several matters that continue to drive change in the current climate of the industry.

### HOUSE BILL 224

Filed March 3, 2021: Occupational Therapy Interstate Compact. This bill amends Chapter 90 of the General Statutes by adding an act to establish and enter into an interstate compact for the practice of occupational therapy. HB 224 became effective and was signed by Governor Roy Cooper on June 11, 2021.

### HOUSE BILL 492

Filed April 5, 2021: WC/Psych. Trauma-Related Injuries. This bill would amend the Workers Compensation Act to provide that law enforcement officers, firefighters, 911 dispatchers and emergency management services personnel are entitled to workers compensation benefits for psychological trauma under specified circumstances. HB 492 would become effective July 1, 2021 if ratified and signed by Governor Roy Cooper and apply to workers compensation claims filed on or after the bill's effective date. HB 1056 passed the first Senate reading on May 10, 2021 and was referred to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.

### HOUSE BILL 535

Filed April 15, 2021: Firefighters Fighting Cancer Act of 2021. This bill would amend Chapter 58 of the General Statutes to provide a supplemental insurance policy for firefighters diagnosed with cancer. HB 535 would become effective when ratified and signed by Governor Roy Cooper. HB 535 passed the first House reading on April 13, 2020 and is currently with the Committee on Appropriations,

and if favorable, would be referred to Committee on Rules, Calendars and Operations of the House.

## 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Bureau will host their 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting- virtually. This meeting is held annually according to statute to provide a yearly update to our member companies. Immediately following the meeting, the Annual Report will be published to our website. Please be sure to check it out for a comprehensive view of all the achievements we have accomplished in 2021!

## GET TO KNOW US!

The Bureau has great employees and we are proud of the work they do on a daily basis. We will be starting a new series in our quarterly newsletter highlighting each department, their responsibilities and their recent achievements. To start see below the average tenure of our associates, with this tenure comes lots of experience. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any of your questions, we are here to help spread the knowledge!

## EMPLOYEE INFORMATION



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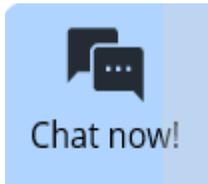
ASSOCIATES

4

DEPARTMENTS

TENURE	# OF EMPLOYEES
0-5 Years	6 Employees
5-15 Years	10 Employees
15-30 Years	9 Employees
30-40 Years	1 Employee
40+ Years	2 Employees

## CHAT FEATURE



The Bureau has created a new chat feature on our website. Located at the bottom right of our website is a widget that allows instant access to our information center. Please feel free to start using this access point to get your questions or concerns handled promptly.

## DEPOPULATION REPORT

Listed below are the top 10 assigned risk classifications. We encourage the depopulation of the assigned risk market. If these class codes fit your appetite, you can use our Depop Report to target assigned risk accounts for potential placement in the voluntary market. The Depop Report is available to agents through our web portal and the list can be sorted by zip code, governing class, expiration month, premium size, or experience modification.

## COMING SOON!

### ELIGIBILITY TOOL



As mentioned in prior newsletters, the Bureau is working on an eligibility tool. This tool will be housed within the ManageAR system and will allow the user to check eligibility status of the employer in real time. This tool is slated to be completed and go live in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021!

### WORKERS COMPENSATION TRAINING



The training and development department here at the Bureau has been working to develop a comprehensive workers compensation training module. This module will review the assigned risk process, the ManageAR system that accompanies that process, and other hot topics- such as class codes and experience modifications. To ensure it is worthwhile we are waiting for all the enhancements to be completed in ManageAR. Be on the lookout for additional information on this training early 2022!

## TOP 10 ASSIGNED RISK CLASSIFICATIONS

 <b>5645</b> Carpentry-Construction of Residential Dwellings	 <b>5474</b> Painting NOC & Shop Operations, Drivers	 <b>5437</b> Carpentry-Installation or Cabinet Work or Interior Trim	 <b>5551</b> Roofing-All Kinds & Drivers	 <b>7219</b> Trucking NOC-All Employees & Drivers
 <b>5403</b> Carpentry-NOC	 <b>8810</b> Clerical Office Employees NOC	 <b>5445</b> Wallboard, Sheetrock, Drywall, Plasterboard or Cement Board Installation	 <b>9014</b> Janitorial Services by Contractors	 <b>5348</b> Ceramic Tile, Indoor Stone, Marble or Mosaic Work