



Minnesota Workers' Compensation
Insurers Association, Inc.
7701 France Avenue South ▪ Suite 450
Minneapolis, MN 55435-3200

September 26, 2005

ALL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Circular Letter 05-1465

RE: Request for Comments Issued by the Minnesota Department of Commerce

Attached for your information is a Request for Comments issued by the Minnesota Department of Commerce. This notification addresses possible amendments to the Minnesota Rules governing data service organizations contained in Minnesota Rules chapter 2705. The Minnesota Workers' Compensation Insurers Association, Inc. is a licensed data service organization and is governed by these rules.

The Association was consulted by the Commerce Department in the preparation of these revisions, which contain necessary updates and simplifications to the current rules, and thus the Association supports their adoption.

No specific action is required by our members in connection with this process; however, if a company wishes to add its support to the adoption of these rules we are sure that those comments would be welcomed by the Commerce Department. You can direct such comments to Tammy L. Lohmann at phone (651) 296-2327, FAX (651) 284-4106, or by e-mail to tammy.lohmann@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Department of Commerce

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Possible Amendment of Rules Governing Data Service Organizations, *Minnesota Rules 2705*

Subject of Rules. The Minnesota Department of Commerce requests comments on its possible amendment of rules governing data service organizations. The rules were adopted as a result of a 1981 legislative update of the laws governing the administration of the workers' compensation system. That legislation created a licensed entity known as a data service organization (DSO) and provided for the transition between another licensed entity known as the Workers' Compensation Insurers Rating Association of Minnesota and the DSO. The department is considering rule amendments to remove rules enacted to bring about that transition and to correct references to outdated manuals and procedures.

Persons Affected. The amendment to the rules would likely affect the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Insurers Association, Inc. (MWCIA) as the state's only licensed data service organization. It also may have some impact on workers' compensation insurance companies and self-insurers who do business with MWCIA or others who obtain information from the association.

Statutory Authority. *Minnesota Statutes*, section 79.51 requires the Department to adopt rules implementing the provisions of *Minnesota Statutes*, chapter 79 governing aspects of the operations of a licensed data service organization.

Public Comment. Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rules in writing until 4:30 p.m. on November 28, 2005. The Department does not contemplate appointing an advisory committee to comment on the possible rules.


Rules Drafts. The Department has prepared a draft of the possible rules amendments.

Agency Contact Person. Written comments, questions, requests to receive a draft of the rules amendments, and requests for more information on these possible rules should be directed to: Tammy L. Lohmann at phone (651) 296-2327, FAX (651) 284-4106, or e-mail tammy.lohmann@state.mn.us. For TTY, contact Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and ask for the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

Alternative Format. Upon request, this Request for Comments can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

Note: Comments received in response to this notice will not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The agency is required to submit to the judge only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submitted comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the administrative law judge reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Dated: September 20, 2005


Glenn Wilson, Commissioner
Department of Commerce