
BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION

- Makes political subdivision personnel who are rendering intrastate mutual assistance or aid under an agreement with another subdivision or the Ohio Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact employees of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency for purposes of workers' compensation coverage.

Personnel providing intrastate mutual assistance or aid

(R.C. 5502.29 and 5502.41)

For purposes of the Workers' Compensation Law,²⁵ the bill makes political subdivision personnel rendering intrastate mutual assistance or aid outside their respective political subdivisions employees of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA), established within DPS, if such assistance or aid is rendered under either of the following:

- A mutual assistance or aid agreement with another political subdivision; or
- The Ohio Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact.

Under continuing law, political subdivision personnel who suffer injury or death while rendering mutual assistance or aid in a different political subdivision pursuant to an agreement with the recipient subdivision or under the state compact are eligible for workers' compensation to the same extent as while serving in the political subdivisions in which the personnel ordinarily work.

Under current law, however, such personnel remain employees or agents of their respective political subdivisions for all purposes, including workers' compensation coverage. Under the bill, they remain employees of their political subdivisions for all other employment-related benefits, but compensation or benefits paid under the Workers' Compensation Law are charged to OEMA's workers' compensation policy.

²⁵ R.C. Chapters 4121, 4123, 4127, and 4131.