## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## SENATE BILL

No. 894

Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY KEEFER, JUNE 24, 2025

REFERRED TO LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JUNE 24, 2025

## AN ACT

- Amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), entitled "An act defining the liability of an employer to pay damages for 2 injuries received by an employe in the course of employment; 3 establishing an elective schedule of compensation; providing 4 procedure for the determination of liability and compensation 5 thereunder; and prescribing penalties," in liability and 6 7 compensation, providing for registration of status as independent contractor. 8 9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 10 hereby enacts as follows: 11 Section 1. The act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, is amended by adding a section 12 13 to read: 14 Section 304.3. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of 15 this act, a person may file a registration with the department 16 regarding the status of an individual who is classified for Federal income tax purposes as an independent contractor of the 17 18 person. (b) A registration under this section shall include the 19 20 following:
- 21 (1) A written waiver by the individual of all benefits under

- 1 this act from the person.
- 2 (2) An affidavit by the individual specifying that the
- 3 individual understands and agrees that the individual:
- 4 (i) is not an employe of the person;
- 5 (ii) is not entitled to benefits under this act from the
- 6 person;
- 7 (iii) may purchase workers' compensation insurance under
- 8 this act or other disability insurance at the individual's own
- 9 <u>expense; and</u>
- 10 (iv) is not entitled to benefits from the Uninsured
- 11 Employers Guaranty Fund if the individual is injured while
- 12 performing services for the person.
- 13 (c) The waiver and affidavit under subsection (b) shall be
- 14 made upon forms prescribed by the department.
- 15 (d) (1) A person who registers an individual as an
- 16 independent contractor under this section:
- 17 (i) shall not be liable to the individual for benefits under
- 18 this act; and
- 19 <u>(ii)</u> shall not be required to provide insurance coverage or
- 20 self-insure under this act regarding the individual.
- 21 (2) An individual registered as an independent contractor
- 22 under this section shall not be eligible for benefits from the
- 23 Uninsured Employers Guaranty Fund if the person is injured while
- 24 performing services as an independent contractor pursuant to the
- 25 <u>registration</u>.
- 26 (e) A registration identifying an individual as an
- 27 <u>independent contractor shall be valid for each future year</u>,
- 28 except that the individual may request that the registration be
- 29 <u>revoked at any time. The following apply:</u>
- 30 (1) The request for revocation shall be on a form prescribed

- 1 by the department.
- 2 (2) The individual shall file the request for revocation
- 3 with the department and concurrently provide notice by certified
- 4 mail of the filing of the request with the person who filed the
- 5 <u>registration</u>.
- 6 (3) The department shall confirm receipt of the request for
- 7 revocation with the individual and the person within five days
- 8 of the receipt of the request.
- 9 (4) The revocation shall be effective ten days after the
- 10 receipt of the request by the department.
- 11 (f) A person shall not do any of the following to persuade
- 12 an individual to complete the waiver and affidavit under
- 13 subsection (b) or refrain from filing a request for revocation
- 14 under subsection (e):
- 15 (1) Knowingly provide an incentive to the individual,
- 16 pecuniary or otherwise.
- 17 (2) Knowingly provide materially false information to the
- 18 <u>individual</u>.
- 19 (3) Knowingly withhold information from the individual in
- 20 order to deceive the individual.
- 21 (q) A person violating subsection (f) shall be subject to
- 22 the penalties for an intentional violation of section 305.
- 23 (h) As used in this section:
- 24 (1) "Independent contractor" includes an individual who
- 25 performs services for a person for valuable consideration but
- 26 who is not classified as an employe of the person for Federal
- 27 <u>income tax purposes.</u>
- 28 (2) "Person" includes a corporation, partnership, limited
- 29 <u>liability company, business trust, other association, government</u>
- 30 entity other than the Commonwealth, estate, trust, foundation or

## 1 <u>individual.</u>

- 2 Section 2. The addition of section 304.3 of the act shall
- 3 not be construed to alter, repeal or supersede any provision of
- 4 the act of October 13, 2010 (P.L.506, No.72), known as the
- 5 Construction Workplace Misclassification Act.
- 6 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 180 days.