Sec. 8149. Regulations

 The Secretary of Labor may prescribe rules and regulations

 necessary for the administration and enforcement of this subchapter

 including rules and regulations for the conduct of hearings under

 section 8124 of this title. The rules and regulations shall provide

 for an Employee's Compensation Appeals Board of three individuals

 designated or appointed by the Secretary with authority to hear

 and, subject to applicable law and the rules and regulations of the

 Secretary, make final decisions on appeals taken from

 determinations and awards with respect to claims of employees. In

 adjudicating claims under section 8146 of this title, the Secretary

 may determine the nature and extent of the proof and evidence

 required to establish the right to benefits under this subchapter

 without regard to the date of injury or death for which claim is made.