

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 6224

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C 59 L 96

Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Exempting long-time disability pilot project participants from an expenditure limitation.

**Sponsors:** Senators Pelz, Deccio, Wojahn and Newhouse; by request of Department of Labor & Industries.

**Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade**

**House Committee on Commerce & Labor**

**Background:** Under the state workers' compensation system, vocational rehabilitation expenditures, including child care and travel, may not exceed \$3,000 in any 52-week period. An additional \$3,000 may be expended in a subsequent 52-week period with the approval of the Director of the Department of Labor and Industries.

The department is operating two pilot projects directed toward the reduction of long-term disability. The pilots use on-the-job training contracts which are subject to the \$3,000 and 52-week limitation. The department asserts that some contracts may call for more than \$3,000 in a shorter time frame than allowed under current law.

**Summary:** For injured workers in long-term disability pilot projects, the director may authorize up to \$6,000 for vocational rehabilitation expenditures, not including child care and travel.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	49	0
House	94	0

**Effective:** June 6, 1996