
SENATE BILL 6246

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senator Honeyford

Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to industrial insurance medical aid claims; and
2 amending RCW 51.36.010.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 51.36.010 and 2007 c 134 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Upon the occurrence of any injury to a worker entitled to
7 compensation under the provisions of this title, he or she shall
8 receive proper and necessary medical and surgical services at the hands
9 of a physician of his or her own choice, if conveniently located, and
10 proper and necessary hospital care and services during the period of
11 his or her disability from such injury. The department for state fund
12 claims shall pay, in accordance with the department's fee schedule, for
13 any alleged injury for which a worker files a claim, any initial
14 prescription drugs provided in relation to that initial visit, without
15 regard to whether the worker's claim for benefits is allowed. In all
16 accepted claims, treatment shall be limited in point of duration as
17 follows:

18 In the case of permanent partial disability, not to extend beyond
19 the date when compensation shall be awarded him or her, except when the

1 worker returned to work before permanent partial disability award is
2 made, in such case not to extend beyond the time when monthly
3 allowances to him or her shall cease; in case of temporary disability
4 not to extend beyond the time when monthly allowances to him or her
5 shall cease: PROVIDED, That after any injured worker has returned to
6 his or her work his or her medical and surgical treatment may be
7 continued if, and so long as, such continuation is deemed necessary by
8 the supervisor of industrial insurance to be necessary to his or her
9 more complete recovery; in case of a permanent total disability not to
10 extend beyond the date on which a lump sum settlement is made with him
11 or her or he or she is placed upon the permanent pension roll:
12 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the supervisor of industrial insurance, solely
13 in his or her discretion, may authorize continued medical and surgical
14 treatment for conditions previously accepted by the department when
15 such medical and surgical treatment is deemed necessary by the
16 supervisor of industrial insurance to protect such worker's life or
17 provide for the administration of medical and therapeutic measures
18 including payment of prescription medications, but not including those
19 controlled substances currently scheduled by the state board of
20 pharmacy as Schedule I, II, III, or IV substances under chapter 69.50
21 RCW, which are necessary to alleviate continuing pain which results
22 from the industrial injury. In order to authorize such continued
23 treatment the written order of the supervisor of industrial insurance
24 issued in advance of the continuation shall be necessary. Any claimant
25 who is receiving continuing treatment is also entitled to payment for
26 reasonable travel expenses.

27 The supervisor of industrial insurance, the supervisor's designee,
28 or a self-insurer, in his or her sole discretion, may authorize
29 inoculation or other immunological treatment in cases in which a work-
30 related activity has resulted in probable exposure of the worker to a
31 potential infectious occupational disease. Authorization of such
32 treatment does not bind the department or self-insurer in any
33 adjudication of a claim by the same worker or the worker's beneficiary
34 for an occupational disease.

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