
SENATE BILL 5678

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Clements, Keiser and Holmquist

Read first time 01/29/2007. Referred to Committee on Labor,
Commerce, Research & Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to a study of the incidence of total permanent
2 disability pensions in the state's workers' compensation system; and
3 creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The department of labor and industries shall
6 conduct a study of the incidence of total permanent disability pensions
7 in the state's workers' compensation system. The department shall
8 contract with an independent researcher with demonstrated expertise in
9 workers' compensation systems. The department shall consult with the
10 workers' compensation advisory committee in determining the criteria to
11 use in selecting a researcher and in selecting the researcher with
12 which to contract.

13 In conducting the study, the researcher selected shall consider the
14 following: (1) Causes of the recent increase in total permanent
15 disability cases, including changes in injured worker demographics,
16 policy, and other areas that may be identified; (2) future anticipated
17 total permanent disability trends; and (3) a comparison of Washington's
18 permanent disability claims experience and injured workers with other
19 states and jurisdictions.

1 The department shall report to the workers' compensation advisory
2 committee on the results of the study on or before July 1, 2008.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
4 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
5 June 30, 2007, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
6 void.

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