

Senate Bill 427

Sponsored by Senators WALKER, MORRISETTE

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Modifies membership of Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee; creating new pro-
3 visions; amending ORS 656.790; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 656.790 is amended to read:

6 656.790. (1) The Governor shall appoint a Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory
7 Committee composed of: [*10 appointed members. Five members from organized labor shall represent*
8 *subject workers and five members shall represent subject employers. In addition to the appointed*
9 *members,*]

10 **(a) Ten members as follows:**

11 **(A) One shall be a person who has received benefits under ORS chapter 656;**

12 **(B) One shall be an employer subject to ORS chapter 656 who is not a public employer;**

13 **(C) One shall be an employee of an insurer providing workers' compensation insurance**
14 **in this state;**

15 **(D) One shall be a member of a labor organization in this state;**

16 **(E) One shall be a member of a self-insured employer organization;**

17 **(F) One shall be a member of the workers' compensation section of the Oregon State Bar**
18 **who represents injured workers;**

19 **(G) One shall be a member of the workers' compensation section of the Oregon State**
20 **Bar who represents employers or insurers;**

21 **(H) One shall be a public employee who is not in management service; and**

22 **(I) Two shall be members of the academic community in this state who have conducted**
23 **research on workers' compensation issues.**

24 **(b) The Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries and the Director of the De-**
25 **partment of Consumer and Business Services, who shall serve [*ex officio as a member*] as *ex officio***
26 **members of the committee.**

27 **(2) The appointment of members of the committee is subject to confirmation by the Senate in**
28 **the manner prescribed in ORS 171.562 and 171.565.**

29 **[(2)] (3) The director may recommend areas of the law which the director desires to have studied**
30 **or the committee may study such aspects of the law as the committee shall determine require their**
31 **consideration. The committee periodically shall review the standards for evaluation of permanent**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 disability adopted under ORS 656.726 and shall recommend to the director factors to be included or
2 such other modification of application of the standards as the committee considers appropriate. The
3 committee shall advise the director regarding any proposed changes in the operation of programs
4 funded by the Workers' Benefit Fund. The committee shall report its findings to the director for such
5 action as the director deems appropriate.

6 [(3)] (4) The committee shall report to the Legislative Assembly such findings and recommen-
7 dations as the committee considers appropriate, including a report on the following matters:

8 (a) Decisions of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals that have significant impact on the
9 workers' compensation system.

10 (b) Adequacy of workers' compensation benefits.

11 (c) Medical and legal system costs.

12 (d) Adequacy of assessments for reserve programs and administrative costs.

13 (e) The operation of programs funded by the Workers' Benefit Fund.

14 [(4)] (5) The members of the committee shall be appointed for a term of two years and shall
15 serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to travel expenses. The committee may hire, sub-
16 ject to approval of the director, such experts as it may require to discharge its duties. All expenses
17 of the committee shall be paid out of the Consumer and Business Services Fund.

18 **SECTION 2. (1) Notwithstanding the term of appointment for members of the Workers'**
19 **Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee specified in ORS 656.790, the term of**
20 **appointment for all members serving on the committee on the effective date of this 2007 Act**
21 **shall expire on that date.**

22 **(2) As soon as possible after the effective date of this 2007 Act, the Governor shall ap-**
23 **point the members of the committee as authorized by the amendments to ORS 656.790 by**
24 **section 1 of this 2007 Act.**

25 **SECTION 3. This 2007 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
26 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2007 Act takes effect**
27 **on its passage.**

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