

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote: 9 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Barton, Cameron, Edwards C., Esquivel, Kennemer, Matthews, Thatcher, Witt, Schaufler
Nays: 0
Exc.: Holvey
Prepared By: Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/13, 4/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies circumstances that require insurer or self-insured employer to contact injured worker for evaluation of eligibility for vocational assistance.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure
- Level of support from the Management-Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC)

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Restores deleted language that outlines the workers' conditions to receive notice.

BACKGROUND: Under the state's worker compensation system, the insurer or self-insured employer must provide vocational assistance to an injured worker who is eligible for assistance to return to work. Notice must be provided to the worker within five days of having knowledge of the worker's likely eligibility for vocational assistance, or the time the worker is medically stationary, if the worker has not returned to the worker's regular employment or other suitable employment, and the worker is not receiving vocational assistance.

HB 2705-A clarifies the second condition for notice for vocational assistance eligibility to include the worker not being released for regular employment or has not returned to other suitable employment.