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Oregon State Legislature
Oregon State Capitol
House Committee on Business and Labor
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

3/2/15

Sent via email to: jan.nordlund@state.or.us

Re: HB 2797, WC Temporary Disability Compensation First Installment Payment – PROPOSED AMENDMENT #1 - NAMIC's Written Testimony

Dear Representative Holvey, Chair; Representative Barton, Vice-Chair; Representative Kennemer, Vice-Chair; and members of the House Committee on Business and Labor:

Thank you for providing the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) an opportunity to submit written testimony to the committee in regard to proposed amendment #1 to HB 2797. NAMIC respectfully submits the following comments on the proposed amendments for the committee's consideration.

NAMIC would support the proposed legislation with the inclusion of the proposed amendment to restore "if" to the medical authorization requirement language and the replacement of "or" with "and to make it clear to injured workers and employers that the TDB first installment payment is due 14 days after the employer has notice or knowledge of the claim *and* notice or knowledge of the disability, *if* authorized by a physician.

NAMIC believes that the proposed amendment is a balanced and thoughtful pro-injured worker amendment, that should help resolve legal ambiguity and assist injured workers in understanding what they need to do to be eligible for a TDB payment and when they should reasonably expect to receive their TDB first installment payment.

Thank you for your time and consideration of NAMIC's written testimony. Please feel free to contact me at 303.907.0587 or at crataj@namic.org, if you have any questions pertaining to my written testimony.

Respectfully,



Christian J. Rataj, Esq.
NAMIC's Senior Director State Affairs -Western Region