

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Workforce

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/18/15

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 05/11, 05/18

Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Knopp, Rosenbaum, Thatcher

Prepared By: Matthew Germer, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows injured worker to file workers' compensation claim within 90 days after health benefit plan rejects claim as being work related. Requires health benefit plan to pay benefits in accordance with terms, conditions and benefits of plan if workers' compensation claim is denied.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Workers' access to medical services
- Interim medical benefits
- Impact of current statute of limitations on workers' compensation claim filings

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In most circumstances, an employee has 90 days after an accident to provide notice to the employer. The employer is then required within five days to file the claim with their workers' compensation insurer. To prevent an injured worker from being in a situation where the health benefit plan refuses to accept the claim because it believes it is work-related and the window has closed to file notice of a work-related injury with the employer, House Bill 3114-A allows an injured worker to submit a workers' compensation claim within 90 days after being denied by the health benefit plan.