



# Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee



## State of Oregon

Kate Brown  
Governor

## Members

Aida Aranda  
Oregon & Southern Idaho Laborers-  
Employers Training Trust

Guy Boileau  
Louisiana Pacific Corp.

Tammy Bowers  
May Trucking Company

Jim Denham  
ATI

Carol Duncan  
General Sheet Metal

Lynn McNamara  
CityCounty Insurance Services

John Mohlis  
Oregon Building Trades Council

Ben Stange  
Polk County Fire District No. 1

Pat Allen  
Director, Oregon Department of  
Consumer & Business Services,  
*Ex-Officio*

## Committee

### Administration

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Committee Administrator

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## Senate Bill 1508

### Increasing MLAC member terms from two to three years

ORS 656.790 establishes the terms for Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC) members at two years. Members of the committee are appointed by the Governor, subject to Senate confirmation. Recent practice has been to limit appointments to two terms. The majority of boards, commissions, and advisory committees are subject to the Governor's executive appointment process have longer terms. For instance, members of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, State Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Oregon Government Ethics Commission have four year terms.

MLAC members are charged with a number of duties focused on the workers' compensation system. The scope of review includes a biennial review of permanent disability evaluation standards, monitoring expenditures from the Workers' Benefit Fund, and making advisory recommendations on legislation that impacts workers and employers within the system.

Given the complexities of workers' compensation regulation, there is a steep learning curve for many committee members. Both current and former MLAC members have said that a two-term (four year) limitation on membership means their departure from the committee happened about the time they truly felt comfortable with their duties. Also, because of the quick turn over in membership, there is little opportunity for new members to learn from the experience of longer-serving members.

While there have been increased efforts to provide educational opportunities to members throughout their service, it cannot completely offset the limited amount of time that a member can serve on MLAC. An increase in the statutory terms from two years to three years will provide MLAC members the maximum opportunity to utilize their individual perspective and knowledge.

There is no known opposition to this concept.