



To: Chair Taylor & Members of the Senate Committee on Workforce

From: Bill Cross & Nellie deVries, Oregon Self-Insurers Association

Date: March 24, 2017

Re: Support HB 2337A

The Oregon Self-Insurers Association (OSIA) is a non-profit, trade association comprised of certified self-insured and large-deductible employers as well as firms and organizations in business to provide services to the self-insured community.

HB 2337 proposes to increase workers' compensation benefits to permanent total disability (PTD)

The bill proposes the following changes:

- Increase the minimum PTD weekly benefit from the lesser of \$50 or 90% of the workers' wage to 33% of the SAWW.
- Increase the maximum PTD weekly benefits from 100% of the SAWW to 133% of the SAWW.¹

Under current Oregon statutes, injured workers eligible for PTD benefits receive 66 2/3% of their weekly wage, subject to a maximum of 100% of the SAWW and a minimum of either 90% of their weekly wage or \$50, whichever is less. HB 2337 would raise the minimum benefit to 33% of the SAWW and would also increase the maximum benefit cap to 133% of the SAWW. The benefit rate would remain at 66 2/3% of the worker's pre-injury average weekly wage, subject to the specified minimum and maximum boundaries.²

OSIA respectfully requests your **support** of HB 2337A to increase the workers' compensation benefits for permanent total disability (PTD).

¹ Analysis of Legislative Concept 697, National Council on Compensation Insurance (November 8, 2016).

² Id.