



Department of Consumer and Business Services

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Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee Membership Terms

HB 2192

The Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC) is statutorily charged with providing accountability to the workers' compensation system in a number of areas, such as:

- Receiving annual financial reports from the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) about the programs funded by the Workers' Benefit Fund;
- Biennially reviewing the standards for evaluating permanent total disability and permanent partial disability benefits;
- Advising DCBS about any proposed changes in the operation of programs funded by the Workers' Benefit Fund;
- Studying workers' compensation statutes or issues within the system at the request of the DCBS Director or by the committee itself; and
- Reporting to the Legislature regarding workers' compensation policy issues as considered appropriate. This is typically conducted via the review and subsequent advisory recommendations on legislation that impacts the system.

MLAC is composed of five representatives each from business and labor, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate, with the DCBS Director serving as ex officio member.

ORS 656.790 establishes the membership terms at two years. Given the complexities of workers' compensation regulation, there is a steep learning curve for many committee members. While there have been increased efforts to provide continuing educational opportunities for committee members, 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 members additional opportunity to utilize their individual perspective and knowledge.

There is no known opposition to this concept.

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