

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 49: Department of Consumer and Business Services Workers' Compensation Premium Assessment

To: Emergency Board
From: General Government Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Girod

The General Government Subcommittee received a report from the Department of Consumer and Business Services on the workers' compensation premium assessment rates for 2025.

Statute requires the Department to report annually on the workers' compensation premium assessments rates that are set through administrative rule. Revenue from these assessments are used to pay for claims of injured workers whose employers cannot obtain payments due to self-insured employer insolvency, and for the Department's programs that regulate the workers' compensation system. The premium assessment rate of 9.8% remains unchanged from 2024.

Although not required by statute, the Department also provided detail regarding the Workers' Benefit Fund assessment. The Workers' Benefit Fund is funded through a cents-per-hour assessment on all wages paid in Oregon and is set to provide an adequate fund balance for projected claims and program expenditures. The Workers' Benefit Fund assessment of 2.0 cents-per-hour remains unchanged from 2024.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of a report from the Department of Consumer and Business Services on the workers' compensation assessment rates.