



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor



Department of
Consumer and
Business Services

Management-Labor Advisory Committee

January 29, 2026

Sen. Kathleen Taylor, Chair
Senate Labor and Business Committee
Via email

Dear Chair Taylor,

The Workers' Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC) has been tasked with the review of SB 1519.

The committee understands that a broad coalition of stakeholders is working to ensure that the bill aligns with the recommendations presented by the MLAC Subcommittee on Average Weekly Wage as outlined below:

“The subcommittee recommends the proposal jointly brought forward from the management (AGC and OBI) and labor (AFSCME) stakeholders: increase the temporary disability rate from 66 2/3 to 75% of the injured worker’s weekly wage, for the portion of wages below 75% of the state average weekly wage (SAWW), and 65% for any wages above 75% of the SAWW.”

The formal MLAC review process for the proposed bill is currently ongoing. A coalition of stakeholders that include: management, labor, insurer, plaintiff and workers’ attorneys, who have already jointly submitted an amendment to address any concerns raised during our meeting last week. Once the amendment is finalized, MLAC will need to review the language to ensure it achieves the stated outcome and remains consistent with the recommendations of the subcommittee. We appreciate the collaborative nature of the process and the hard work and dedication of all the stakeholders in reaching a compromise and engaging in the process.

Sincerely,


Patrick Priest, Co-chair
Management


Scott Strickland
Labor

Members

Emily Cronan
Oregon Nurses Association

Sara Duckwall
Duckwall Fruit

Ryan Hearn
Anduril Industries

Stacy Lewallen
Fortis Construction, Inc.

Sarah Merrick
City of Salem, Fire
Department

Patrick Priest
CIS Trust
Management co-chair

Kim Schlessinger
Samaritan Health Services

Scott Strickland
Sheet Metal Workers Local
#16 *Labor co-chair*

Margaret Weddell
Labor representative

Sean O’Day
Director, Oregon
Department of Consumer &
Business Services,
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Committee administration

Teri Watson
Committee Administrator

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