

SB 1519 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

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Meeting Dates: 2/2, 2/4, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure modifies the compensation a worker will receive from workers' compensation during a period of temporary total disability to 75 percent of the worker's wage up to 75 percent of the average weekly wage and 65 percent of the worker's wage that is greater than 75 percent of the average weekly wage. Applies to claims for temporary total disability injuries or diseases incurred on or after January 1, 2027.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Potential impact of measure on self-sufficiency benefits
- Measure applies to claims with a date of injury on or after January 1, 2027
- Calculation based on the average weekly wage in effect on the date of injury

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment specifies that the modification to the compensation a worker will receive during a period of temporary total disability applies to the average weekly wage in effect on the date of the injury. The amendment modifies the compensation a worker will receive from workers' compensation during a period of permanent total disability to 75 percent of the worker's wage up to 75 percent of the average weekly wage and 65 percent of the worker's wage that is over 75 percent of the average weekly wage. Applies to claims with a date of injury on or after January 1, 2027.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

-2 The amendment specifies that the modification to the compensation a worker will receive during a period of temporary total disability applies to the average weekly wage in effect on the date of the injury. It also specifies the statutory definition for "average weekly wage" applicable to temporary total disability only applies to increases in compensation benefits paid when the applicable average weekly wage has increased since the previous fiscal year. The amendment modifies the compensation a worker will receive from workers' compensation during a period of permanent total disability to 75 percent of the worker's wage up to 75 percent of the average weekly wage and 65 percent of the worker's wage that is over 75 percent of the average weekly wage. Applies to claims with a date of injury on or after January 1, 2027.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

BACKGROUND:

Workers' compensation insurance pays for workers' medical treatment and lost wages on accepted claims when workers suffer work-related injuries or illnesses. Oregon employers that have one or more workers, must carry workers' compensation insurance or be self-insured. The Workers' Compensation Division (division) of the Department of Consumer and Business Services administers and regulates the laws and rules surrounding workers' compensation in Oregon. The Workers' Compensation Board is composed of five members and is

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charged with resolving workers' compensation disputes.

Oregon workers' compensation law defines "average weekly wage" as the "Oregon average weekly wage in covered employment, as determined by the Employment Department, for the last quarter of the calendar year preceding the fiscal year in which the injury occurred. As of May 8, 2025 Oregon's average weekly wage is \$1,417.06. This amount is in effect from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

PRELIMINARY