LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB**

Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL

Opp. Chamb. Action: Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For .:

Date: April 17, 2024

1:08 PM

Author: TAYLOR

Dept./Agy.: Office of Risk Management & LA Workforce Commission **Subject:** Presumption of Compensability under Workers' Comp.

Analyst: Noah O'Dell

WORKERS COMPENSATION

OR SEE FISC NOTE SG EX

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765 HLS 24RS 1107

Provides relative to a presumption of compensability under workers' compensation

<u>Current law</u> entitles an employee to workers' compensation benefits when an injury occurs by accident arising out of or in the course of his employment, under certain circumstances. <u>Current law</u> specifies an employer or insurance carrier may furnish medical services or provide payments without constituting an admission of liability for compensation.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains current law and creates a rebuttable presumption of compensability on a workers' compensation claim 90 days following the date of an accident.

Effective August 1, 2024.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The Office of Risk Management (ORM) reports the proposed law could potentially result in additional costs under the prescribed scenario provided by the bill. A dispute would have to be filed with the Office Of Workers' Compensation to resolve a termination of benefits that could result in penalties, attorney fees, and the continued payment of the claim. However, a very limited occurrence of the exact situation impacted by the bill (less than 1% of claims) informs the expectation that the proposed measure is likely to have a minimal fiscal impact in future years, probably less than \$100,000 annually should existing claim patterns prevail. The LA Workforce Commission is capable of complying with the proposed law utilizing existing resources.

The bill works to create a presumption of compensability, albeit disputable, if an employer has been making voluntary medical or indemnity payments made to an injured worker 90 days or more after the date of an injury.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	House	Dhy Vii
13.5.1 >=	\$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		
13.5.2 >=	\$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee	6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase	Deborah Vivien
	Change {S & H}	or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	Chief Economist