STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Senate

General Assembly

File No. 529

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 828

Senate, April 7, 2025

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through SEN. KUSHNER of the 24th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (Effective from passage) (a) There is established a working
- 2 group to study the workers' compensation program. Such study shall
- 3 include an examination of ways to (1) streamline such program,
- 4 including, but not limited to, updating the workers' compensation
- 5 electronic filing system, including the reporting triggers and
- 6 mechanisms, (2) reduce prior authorization delays, and (3) reduce
- 7 fraudulent claims.
- 8 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:
- 9 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 10 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- 11 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of

12 Representatives;

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- 13 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
- 14 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of 15 Representatives;
- 16 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and
- 17 (7) The chairperson of the Workers' Compensation Commission, or 18 the chairperson's designee.
- (c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.
- 22 (d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not 23 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy 24 shall be filled by the appointing authority.
 - (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the working group from among the members of the working group. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.
- 30 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the 31 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and 32 public employees shall serve as administrative staff of the working 33 group.
 - (g) Not later than January 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2026, whichever is later.

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	all take effect as follow	vs and shall amend the following
sections:		
Section 1	from passage	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (b)($\overline{7}$), "commissioner's designee" was changed to "chairperson's designee" for accuracy.

LAB Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which establishes a working group to study the workers' compensation program, does not result in a fiscal impact because the working group has the expertise to meet the bill's requirements.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/20/2025)