

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7141

AN ACT CONCERNING COMPENSATION PAID TO INJURED
EMPLOYEES AND THE PARENTS OF A DECEASED EMPLOYEE
UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Department of Administrative Services - Workers' Comp. Claims	App Fund - Cost	2,140,000	2,000,000
Department of Administrative Services - Workers' Comp. Claims	App Fund - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: App Fund=All Appropriated Funds

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

Section 1, which expands the list of injuries eligible for permanent, partial disability (PPD) and increases the benefits for a cervical spine injury, results in a cost to the Department of Administrative Services – Worker’s Compensation Claims and various self-insured municipalities beginning in FY 26 to the extent additional workers’ compensation benefits are provided. The cost to the state is approximately \$2 million per year beginning in FY 26 and may vary significantly from year-to-year dependent upon the number of injuries that occur. The expanded list of injuries covered includes injuries to the intestinal tract (347

weeks), esophagus (180 weeks), trachea (117 weeks), larynx (117 weeks), and diaphragm (117 weeks).

Section 2 results in a potential cost to the Department of Administrative Services – Worker’s Compensation Claims and various self-insured municipalities beginning in FY 26 to the extent additional workers’ compensation benefits are provided to parents in the event an employee dies with no presumptive dependents (e.g., spouse or minor children).

There is a specific relevant claim which is impacted by this bill that may result in a total estimated cost of \$140,000 over six years beginning in FY 26. The workers’ compensation benefit of this claim has yet to be determined and may vary significantly from this estimate.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.