

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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May 1, 2025

## ADDENDUM

To Fiscal Note on  
sHB-7141, File No. 784

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

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The fiscal note should have also included the following.

**Section 1** removes the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) discretion to award temporary partial incapacity benefits resulting in savings to the Department of Administrative Services – Worker's Compensation Claims and various self-insured municipalities to the extent less awards are provided by ALJs. The savings to the state may exceed \$4 million per year beginning in FY 26 and may vary significantly from year-to-year based on the number of cases and the determinations of the ALJ.

In March 2025, the Connecticut Supreme Court ruled in *Gardner v. Dept. of Mental Health & Addiction Services* that Connecticut law gives ALJ discretion to award a workers' compensation claimant, after they reach maximum medical improvement, ongoing temporary partial incapacity benefits (up to the statutory maximum of 520 weeks) rather than PPD benefits. Section 1 eliminates the anticipated cost increases associated with the ruling which would impact both the state and various self-insured municipalities.