
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6408

AN ACT EXPANDING COMPENSATION TO DEPENDENTS FOR A DEATH RESULTING FROM AN ACCIDENT.

SUMMARY

Under current law, when employees with no presumptive dependents (e.g., spouse or minor children) die due to a work-related accident, anyone who was wholly dependent in fact upon them may receive their workers' compensation benefits. This bill also allows for these benefits, under those circumstances, to be divided equally among the deceased employee's next of kin (presumably, those who are not the employee's dependents). (The bill does not specify who qualifies as "next of kin," or which option must be used if the employee has next of kin who are not dependents and non-kin who are wholly dependent in fact.)

Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, these benefits may be paid for up to 312 weeks from the employee's death. Survivors who were wholly dependent in fact must be paid the full benefit rate, and benefits for those partially dependent in fact must be at least \$20 per week, but no more than the (1) full benefit rate or (2) average weekly amount that the deceased contributed to their support. (The bill does not specify a benefit rate for nondependent next of kin receiving benefits under the bill.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/13/2025)