BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 2375
Version: FA1
Request Number: 7539
Author: Rep. Kannady
Date: 3/14/2023
Impact: Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

The floor substitute for HB 2375 modifies certain administration aspects of workers' compensation. The measure provides that permanent partial disability compensation will not exceed an amount equal to 40 percent of the state's average weekly wage to be adjusted annually for a term of up to 360 total weeks for the body as a whole.

The measure also details beneficiary priority among surviving relatives and requires claims for travel reimbursement to be made within one year of the travel with reimbursement being issued within 60 days of the receipt of request.

The measure authorizes the Workers Compensation Commission to review any compensation judgment, award, or decision at any time upon a filing of an application for a finding of a change of condition for the better.

The measure also extends the operations and term of the incumbent judge of the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims until July 1, 2027.

CHANGES MADE IN THE FLOOR SUBSTITUTE

- Expands the definition of compensable injury, adds definitions for idiopathic and intentional act, modifies definition of permanent partial disability
- Changes language from intentional tort to intentional act and provides qualifying guidelines for employers
- Specifies that mental injury or illnesses will only be compensable in the event of a diagnosis pursuant to the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
- Adjusts compensation rates for permanent partial disability
- Modifies beneficiary amounts and travel reimbursement, and permanent disability review procedure

Prepared By: Autumn Mathews

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.
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