

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB2375</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>FA2</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>8038</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. Kannady</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3/22/2023</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Research Analysis**

The second floor substitute for HB 2375 modifies administration components of permanent partial disability benefits structure. The measure adjusts various compensation rates for injuries occurring on after the date of the adjustment.

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 Workers Compensation Commission is additionally authorized 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 and 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**

This measure updates the language pertaining to the appointment dates of judges serving on the Workers' Compensation Court of Existing Claims (WCCEC). After consultation with officials from the WCCEC, HB2375 is not expected to have an impact on the state budget or appropriations.

The floor amendment makes changes to payouts from insurance carriers and employers. This is not a cost borne by the state budget, therefore there is no affect to the fiscal impact as a result of the floor amendment.

Prepared By: Robert Flipping IV, House Fiscal Staff

### **Other Considerations**

None.

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