Reinstatement and Reemployment of Injured Workers

Department of Administrative Services SB 291 2015 Legislative Session

ORS 659A.052

Reinstatement and Reemployment Rights of Injured State Workers

- ORS 659A.052 provides:
 - State injured workers with additional rights to reinstatement and reemployment
 - Specifically in agencies besides the agency in which they were injured.
 - DAS must adopt its reinstatement and reemployment of injured workers policies as OARs.
- Statute was last revised following passage of HB 2778 B by Legislature in 2009.
- DAS adopted the rules upon passage of the bill.

DAS' Rules

In 2009 DAS promulgated its policies into:

- OAR 105-050-0025, Injured Worker Preference for Light Duty Assignments under ORS 659A.052
 - Provides rules for temporary assignments for injured state workers.
- OAR 105-050-0030, Injured Worker Preference for Entry Level Positions Under ORS 659A.052
 - Provides rules for permanent assignments for injured state workers.

DAS' Rules (Continued)

- For temporary placement the rules provide:
 - Must first look within the agency at injury for modified duty work.
 - Outside the agency is <u>optional</u>.
- For permanent placement the rules provide:
 - Must first look within the agency at injury for modified duty work.
 - If not possible, <u>must</u> place an injured worker in another agency when permanent restrictions are known.

Senate Bill 291

- Intent of the Concept:
 - Avoid future claims.
 - DOJ has advised that agencies are vulnerable to lawsuits without this change.
 - Continue to provide the additional level of temporary and permanent work for injured state workers.