

February 20, 2017

Joint Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Re: **DCBS**

Dear Co-Chairs Johnson and Gomberg, Committee Members:

For the past three years I have served as the Management Co-Chair of the Management Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC). As most of you may know, MLAC strives to review proposed legislation that involves workers' compensation matters in Oregon and to provide suggestions or guidance to decision makers and lawmakers such as yourselves.

In all of the Committee's activities, DCBS and in particular the Workers' Compensation Division have been an integral part of MLAC's functioning. All information from seminal legislative concepts through finalized bills is provided to the Committee through WCD. It is not difficult to imagine how cumbersome that task alone would be for those of us outside the legislative process.

In addition to keeping the Committee apprised of what is happening in the legislature, DCBS provides an abundance of supporting documentation and testimony to help MLAC members grasp sometimes difficult concepts and to posture the Committee to make informed, thoughtful recommendations. A few of the issues or concepts that have come before the Committee are:

- Permanent Total Disability and Fatality benefits
- Financial status of the Worker Benefit Fund
- Independent Medical Examinations
- Managed Care Organizations
- Attorney Fees paid in workers' compensation cases
- Reemployment and Reinstatement rights for injured workers
- Significant Court of Appeals and Supreme Court cases

The assistance DCBS has provided the Committee in understanding these involved and sometimes complex issues is invaluable. It would be impossible for Committee members on their own to gather, organize and digest all of the materials necessary to make informed decisions.

In my other capacity as Workers' Compensation Claims Manager for Louisiana-Pacific Corporation, I have the opportunity to deal with a number of state and provincial regulatory agencies in the US and Canada. There is none in my experience that surpasses the levels of knowledge, technical guidance and unfailing support of DCBS. It is a real pleasure to work with the Department. We could not do what we do without their support.

Sincerely yours,

GUY BOILEAU

Workers' Compensation Claims Manager