

January 27, 2021

Chair Paul Holvey
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2040 *Relating to methods for reporting information related to workers' compensation claims*

Dear Chair Holvey and committee members,

We write to you as a group of workers' comp stakeholders representing labor, business, insurers, and attorneys with respect to HB 2040, which seeks to modify the reporting requirements of workers' compensation claims, claim denials, and claim closures. We support the intent of the proposed statutory changes; however, as drafted, the proposed changes extend beyond the intended purpose and include stylistic changes that conflict with the language commonly used in ORS chapter 656, the workers' compensation statute. We believe the changes will result in additional litigation in what is an area of settled law.

We ask the committee to retain the substantive change consistent with the proposal's intent while maintaining the consistency of the language.

We have reached out to Legislative Counsel and the Workers Compensation Division to address these issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Arthur Towers
Oregon Trial
Attorneys

David Barenberg
SAIF Corporation

Paloma Sparks
Oregon Business &
Industry

Kirsten Adams
Associated General
Contractors

Jess Giannettino Villatoro
Oregon AFL-CIO

Shawn Miller
American Property Casualty
Insurance Association