

SB 1580 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Taylor

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Action Date: 02/12/24

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Bonham, Hansell, Jama, Patterson, Taylor

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/5, 2/7, 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure specifies that an employer commits a Class A misdemeanor if the employer knowingly submits a false payroll report to the Workers' Compensation Board, Board chairperson, Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the corporation, or an insurer when the employer has the intent to decrease the employer's premium for coverage under workers' compensation laws. The measure applies to conduct occurring on or after effective date. Finally, the measure declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Application of the measure to certain employer representations
- Level of applicable penalty for offense
- Workers' Benefit Fund and programs it supports
- Position of the Management-Labor Advisory Committee

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure with the exception of the emergency clause.

BACKGROUND:

In Oregon, workers' compensation laws require employers to maintain insurance coverage for their employees and beneficiaries for compensation of compensable injuries. Oregon law defines compensable injury, and it includes an accidental injury arising out of and in the course of employment requiring medical services or resulting in disability or death. Employers must either be self-insured as specified in law or be a carrier-insured employer. Carrier-insured employers are those who provide workers' compensation coverage through the State Accident Insurance Fund (SAIF) Corporation or another insurer authorized by law to transact workers' compensation insurance in Oregon. The Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) maintains a Workers' Compensation Division that administers and regulates Oregon's workers' compensation laws and rules. Included within DCBS responsibilities is managing the Workers' Benefit Fund, which helps support programs for employers and injured workers. The Workers' Compensation Board is also within DCBS and is charged with resolving disputes under Oregon's workers' compensation laws.

Senate Bill 1580 A specifies that an employer commits a Class A misdemeanor if the employer knowingly submits a false payroll report to specified persons or entities when the employer has the intent to decrease the employer's premium for coverage under Oregon's workers' compensation laws.