A-Engrossed House Bill 2802

Ordered by the House March 7 Including House Amendments dated March 7

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of Governor Tina Kotek for Department of Consumer and Business Services)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act would change when a lump sum payment for permanent partial disability has to be made. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.1).

[Requires] Establishes the circumstances in which an insurer is required to make a lump sum payment of a permanent partial disability award [if the worker waives reconsideration of the notice of closure or the award has become final by operation of law].

A BILL FOR AN ACT

- Relating to lump sum payments of permanent partial disability awards; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 656.230.
 - Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
 - **SECTION 1.** ORS 656.230 is amended to read:
 - 656.230. (1) When a worker has been awarded compensation for permanent partial disability, and the total amount of the award does not exceed \$6,000, the insurer or the self-insured employer shall pay the total amount of the award to the worker in a lump sum payment.
 - (2)(a) Subject to paragraph (b) of this subsection, when a worker has been awarded compensation for permanent partial disability, the total amount of the award exceeds \$6,000 and the worker requests payment of all or part of the award in a lump sum payment, the insurer or self-insured employer shall make the payment requested [unless the] if:
 - [(a)] (A) The worker has [not] waived the right to [appeal the adequacy of the award;] request reconsideration of the notice of closure; or
 - [(b)] **(B) The** award has [not] become final by operation of law[;].
- 16 (b) The insurer or self-insured employer is not required to make the payment requested 17 if:
 - (A) The insurer or self-insured employer timely requests reconsideration of the notice of closure under ORS 656.268 (5)(e) and the reconsideration proceeding has not yet been completed;
- [(c)] (B) Payment of compensation has been stayed pending a request for hearing or review under ORS 656.313; or
- [(d)] (C) **The** worker is enrolled and actively engaged in training according to rules adopted pursuant to ORS 656.340 and 656.726.
- [(2)] (3) Any unpaid balance of the award **that is** not paid in a lump sum payment shall be paid pursuant to ORS 656.216.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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19 20 [(3) In all cases where the award for permanent partial disability does not exceed \$6,000, the insurer or the self-insured employer shall pay all of the award to the worker in a lump sum.]

SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 656.230 by section 1 of this 2025 Act apply to claims in which a notice of closure is issued on or after January 1, 2026.