

# House Bill 3750

Sponsored by Representative GRAYBER

## 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 **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act would let the duty-related costs of the head of BOLI be paid out of the Workers' Benefit Fund. (Flesch Readability Score: 68.0).

Authorizes the payment out of the Workers' Benefit Fund of the expenses of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries in carrying out the commissioner's statutory duties.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to funding the operations of the Bureau of Labor and Industries; amending ORS 656.605; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1.** ORS 656.605 is amended to read:

656.605. (1) The Workers' Benefit Fund is created in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Moneys in the fund shall be invested in the same manner as other state moneys and investment earnings shall be credited to the fund. The fund shall consist of the following:

(a) Moneys received pursuant to ORS 656.506.

(b) Moneys recovered under ORS 656.054.

(c) Penalties recovered under ORS 656.735.

(d) All moneys received by the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services pursuant to law or from any other source for purposes for which the fund may be expended.

(2) Moneys in the Workers' Benefit Fund may be expended for the following purposes:

(a) Expenses of programs under ORS 656.445, 656.506, 656.622, 656.625, 656.628 and 656.630.

(b) Proceedings against noncomplying employers pursuant to ORS 656.054 and 656.735.

(c) Expenses of vocational assistance on claims, the cost of which was imposed pursuant to section 15, chapter 600, Oregon Laws 1985.

(d) Payment of supplemental temporary disability benefits for workers employed in more than one job at the time of injury and reimbursement of the costs of administering payments resulting from elections by insurers and self-insured employers as provided by ORS 656.210 (5).

(e) Payments made to injured workers pursuant to section 6a, chapter 865, Oregon Laws 2001.

(f) Expenses of the Bureau of Labor and Industries for enforcing ORS 659A.040, 659A.043, 659A.046, 659A.049 and 659A.052, subject to an agreement between the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries. The agreement must include, but is not limited to, the amount of funds to be transferred to the bureau for enforcing ORS 659A.040, 659A.043, 659A.046, 659A.049 and 659A.052 and the information relating to the enforcement of ORS 659A.040, 659A.043, 659A.046, 659A.049 and 659A.052 that the

**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.

bureau must report to the director.

(g) Reimbursement to the insurer or self-insured employer for the amount of permanent total disability benefits paid after the date of the notice of closure that was upheld pursuant to ORS 656.206.

(h) Reimbursement of vocational benefit expenses as provided in ORS 656.313.

**(i) Expenses of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries in carrying out the duties set forth in ORS 651.050.**

(3) Subject to the following provisions, all moneys in the fund are appropriated continuously to the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services to carry out the activities for which the fund may be expended:

(a) Moneys received pursuant to ORS 656.054 and 656.735 and transfers made pursuant to ORS 705.148 may be expended only to carry out the provisions of ORS 656.054 and 656.735 and section 15, chapter 600, Oregon Laws 1985.

(b) Moneys received pursuant to ORS 656.506 and the transfers of unexpended and unobligated moneys in the Retroactive Reserve, Reemployment Assistance Reserve, Reopened Claims Reserve and Handicapped Workers Reserve referred to in ORS 656.506, 656.622, 656.625 and 656.628 (All 1993 Edition) may be expended only to carry out the programs referred to in ORS 656.506, 656.622, 656.625, 656.628 and 656.630.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if the director determines at any time that there are insufficient moneys in the Workers' Benefit Fund to pay the expenses of programs for which expenditure of the fund is authorized, the director may reduce the level of benefits payable accordingly.

**SECTION 2. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on its passage.**

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