

2 **ESHB 2696** - S COMM AMD  
3 By Committee on Labor & Commerce

4 NOT ADOPTED 3/9/94

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 51.32 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) By July 1, 1994, the department shall establish interim  
10 criteria and procedures for management of claims involving chemically  
11 related illness to ensure consistency and fairness in the adjudication  
12 of these claims. The criteria and procedures shall apply to employees  
13 covered by the state fund and employees of self-insured employers. The  
14 department shall adopt final criteria and procedures by December 31,  
15 1994, and report the criteria and procedures as required under section  
16 5 of this act.

17 (2) The special procedures developed by the department shall  
18 include procedures to determine which claims involving chemically  
19 related illness require expert management. The department shall assign  
20 claims managers with special training or expertise to manage these  
21 claims.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 51.04 RCW  
23 to read as follows:

24 (1) The department of labor and industries and the department of  
25 health shall be the colead agencies for an advisory committee that  
26 shall consult with and advise the participating agencies on issues  
27 relating to chemically related illness. The committee shall include  
28 three persons with chemically related illness, one of whom is a worker  
29 from a self-insured employer and two of whom are members of a labor  
30 union, three persons representing employers with chemically related  
31 illness industrial insurance claims, one of whom is a self-insured  
32 employer, a representative of the department of labor and industries,  
33 a representative of the department of health, and two physicians  
34 licensed to practice medicine, one of whom is an osteopathic physician.  
35 Appointments to the committee shall be made jointly by the director of

1 the department of health and the department of labor and industries.  
2 The committee should review and make recommendations regarding the  
3 criteria and procedures developed by the department under section 1 of  
4 this act, the responsibilities of the several agencies for providing  
5 services to persons with chemically related illness, the coordination  
6 between chemically related occupational disease and other chemically  
7 related illness public health issues, and any other issues related to  
8 providing services to persons with chemically related illnesses that  
9 the committee may choose to review.

10 (2) This section shall expire June 30, 1995.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 51.32 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 The department shall work with the department of health to  
14 establish one or more centers for research and clinical assessment of  
15 chemically related illness.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 51.32 RCW  
17 to read as follows:

18 (1) The department shall conduct research on chemically related  
19 illnesses, which shall include contracting with recognized medical  
20 research institutions. The department shall develop an implementation  
21 plan for research based on sound scientific research criteria, such as  
22 double blind studies, and shall include adequate provisions for peer  
23 review, and submit the plan to the worker's compensation advisory  
24 committee for review and approval. Following approval of the plan, all  
25 specific proposals for projects under the plan shall be submitted for  
26 review to a scientific advisory committee, established to provide  
27 scientific oversight of research projects, and to the workers'  
28 compensation advisory committee. The department shall include a  
29 research project that encourages regional cooperation in addressing  
30 chemically related illness.

31 (2) Expenditures for research projects shall be within legislative  
32 appropriations from the medical aid fund, with self-insured employers  
33 and the state fund each paying a pro rata share, based on the number of  
34 worker hours, of the authorized expenditures.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** In consultation with the workers'  
36 compensation advisory committee, the department of labor and industries

1 and the department of health shall jointly make an interim report to  
2 the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature by  
3 December 31, 1994, and a final report by June 30, 1995, on:

4 (1) The status of the department of labor and industries' final  
5 criteria and procedures for management of claims involving chemically  
6 related illness;

7 (2) The status of research projects authorized under section 4 of  
8 this act;

9 (3) A plan by the department of health for including accurate  
10 occupational information in all relevant current and developing  
11 automated health data bases;

12 (4) A state board of health plan to make occupational diseases  
13 reportable conditions;

14 (5) Other initiatives related to chemically related illness; and

15 (6) Any recommendations for legislation."

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19 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "illness;" strike the  
20 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter 51.32  
21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 51.04 RCW; and creating a new  
22 section."

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