

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SSB 5147

---

C 185 L 99

Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Prescribing procedures for payment of industrial insurance awards after death.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Labor & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senator Patterson).

**Senate Committee on Labor & Workforce Development**

**House Committee on Commerce & Labor**

**House Committee on Appropriations**

**Background:** If a person is entitled to industrial insurance benefits but dies before receiving a payment, current law allows only the surviving spouse, or the child or children if there is no surviving spouse, to receive the payment. The term child— means a child under 18, or a child under 23 while a full-time student, unless the child is a dependent as a result of a physical, mental, or sensory handicap.

**Summary:** If there is no surviving spouse and no child or children at the time of death of a person entitled to industrial insurance benefits, the amount of the award or monthly payment must be paid according to the terms of the decedent's will, if there is one, or the state's statute controlling distribution of assets for those who die without a will. The Department of Labor and Industries or the self-insurer may send the final payment in the decedent's name to the decedent's last known address. If a self-insurer is also obligated to make a payment to the supplemental pension fund, the amount of that payment is reduced by the amount of the payment to be distributed as part of the decedent's estate.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	46	0	
House	93	0	(House amended)
Senate	46	0	(Senate concurred)

**Effective:** July 25, 1999