
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6391

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Commerce & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Honeyford and T. Sheldon)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing priorities for the industrial
2 insurance system; adding a new section to chapter 51.04 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 51.04 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The department must continuously improve in quality, efficiency,
8 and effectiveness to increase public trust in the way the department
9 operates and delivers services so that employers and workers receive
10 maximum value for their premium dollars. Further, the department must
11 establish priorities for the delivery of its services and annually
12 assess whether the department's programs and activities contribute to
13 the department's priorities. The highest priority programs must be
14 evaluated to determine if they are operating at maximum efficiency, and
15 the lowest priority programs must be assessed to determine their
16 continued viability. The department shall release its annual
17 assessment to the citizens of the state, the governor, and the
18 appropriate legislative committees by January 1st of each year.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The office of financial management shall
2 draft a plan for funding the programs and services not directly related
3 to industrial insurance that are currently funded through the medical
4 aid and accident funds. The office of financial management shall
5 convene an advisory panel comprised of representatives of both labor
6 and business to assist it in developing the plan. For the medical aid
7 fund, the office of financial management shall include in its plan how
8 to pay for programs and services currently funded that do not meet the
9 following criteria: Medical aid and like benefits for loss sustained
10 because of injury, disease, or death provided for by Title 51 RCW,
11 administration costs of Title 51 RCW, and debt service for capital
12 improvements related to the state fund. For the accident fund, the
13 office of financial management shall include in its plan how to pay for
14 programs and services currently funded that do not meet the following
15 criteria: Payment of compensation, vocational rehabilitation, death
16 benefits, funeral expenses, or like benefits for loss sustained because
17 of injury, disease, or death provided for by Title 51 RCW,
18 administration costs of Title 51 RCW, and debt service for capital
19 improvements related to the state fund. The report shall be delivered
20 to the appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the
21 senate by November 1, 2004.

--- END ---