
HOUSE BILL 1877

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Conway, Curtis, Green, Condotta, Williams, Walsh, Wood, Anderson, Haler, Crouse, Kenney, Hasegawa and Ormsby

Read first time 01/31/2007. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to payment of industrial insurance medical aid
2 claims; and amending RCW 51.36.010.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 51.36.010 and 1986 c 58 s 6 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Upon the occurrence of any injury to a worker entitled to
7 compensation under the provisions of this title, he or she shall
8 receive proper and necessary medical and surgical services at the hands
9 of a physician of his or her own choice, if conveniently located, and
10 proper and necessary hospital care and services during the period of
11 his or her disability from such injury(~~(, but the same)~~). The
12 department for state fund claims shall pay, in accordance with the
13 department's fee schedule, for the initial visit related to any alleged
14 injury for which a worker files a claim for benefits, and any initial
15 prescription drugs provided in relation to that initial visit, without
16 regard to whether the worker's claim for benefits is allowed. In all
17 accepted claims, treatment shall be limited in point of duration as
18 follows:

1 In the case of permanent partial disability, not to extend beyond
2 the date when compensation shall be awarded him or her, except when the
3 worker returned to work before permanent partial disability award is
4 made, in such case not to extend beyond the time when monthly
5 allowances to him or her shall cease; in case of temporary disability
6 not to extend beyond the time when monthly allowances to him or her
7 shall cease: PROVIDED, That after any injured worker has returned to
8 his or her work his or her medical and surgical treatment may be
9 continued if, and so long as, such continuation is deemed necessary by
10 the supervisor of industrial insurance to be necessary to his or her
11 more complete recovery; in case of a permanent total disability not to
12 extend beyond the date on which a lump sum settlement is made with him
13 or her or he or she is placed upon the permanent pension roll:
14 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the supervisor of industrial insurance, solely
15 in his or her discretion, may authorize continued medical and surgical
16 treatment for conditions previously accepted by the department when
17 such medical and surgical treatment is deemed necessary by the
18 supervisor of industrial insurance to protect such worker's life or
19 provide for the administration of medical and therapeutic measures
20 including payment of prescription medications, but not including those
21 controlled substances currently scheduled by the state board of
22 pharmacy as Schedule I, II, III, or IV substances under chapter 69.50
23 RCW, which are necessary to alleviate continuing pain which results
24 from the industrial injury. In order to authorize such continued
25 treatment the written order of the supervisor of industrial insurance
26 issued in advance of the continuation shall be necessary.

27 The supervisor of industrial insurance(~~(τ)~~) or the supervisor's
28 designee, (~~((or a self-insurer,τ))~~) in his or her sole discretion, may
29 authorize inoculation or other immunological treatment in cases in
30 which a work-related activity has resulted in probable exposure of the
31 worker to a potential infectious occupational disease. Authorization
32 of such treatment does not bind the department or self-insurer in any
33 adjudication of a claim by the same worker or the worker's beneficiary
34 for an occupational disease.

--- END ---