

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5835

As of January 19, 2022

Title: An act relating to workers' compensation.

Brief Description: Concerning workers' compensation.

Sponsors: Senators Saldaña, Keiser, Nguyen, Nobles, Stanford and Wilson, C..

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs: 1/17/22.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Provides the same percentages of the worker's wages to be received by a injured worker for a permanent and temporary total disability whether a worker is married or unmarried.
- Removes the requirement that an injured worker be married to receive an additional \$10 per month when the worker is receiving the minimum monthly payments for a permanent or temporary total disability.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE & TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Staff: Susan Jones (786-7404)

Background: When the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) determines there is a permanent or temporary total disability from a workers' compensation injury, a worker receives monthly payments during the period of the disability, as follows:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

No. of the Worker's Children	% of the Worker's Wages if the Worker is Married	% of the Worker's Wages if the Worker is Unmarried
0	65%	60%
1	67%	62%
2	69%	64%
3	71%	66%
4	73%	68%
5 or more	75%	70%

The term "child" means every natural born child, posthumous child, stepchild, child legally adopted prior to the injury, child born after the injury where conception occurred prior to the injury, and dependent child in the legal custody and control of the worker, all while under the age of 18 years, or under the age of 23 years while permanently enrolled at a full time course in an accredited school, and over the age of 18 years if the child is a dependent as a result of a disability.

A married worker receives an additional \$10 per month when the worker is receiving the minimum monthly payments for a permanent or temporary total disability.

Summary of Bill: The percentages of the worker's wages to be received by an injured unmarried worker for a permanent or temporary total disability are the same as a married worker.

An unmarried worker also receives an additional \$10 per month when the worker is receiving the minimum monthly payments for a permanent or temporary total disability.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 11, 2022.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.