

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Implementation of this bill may increase workers' compensation insurance premiums for state and local governments.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Workers' Compensation Advisory Council reviewed proposed legislation affecting the workers' compensation system, pursuant to its statutory mandate. The prior Council had a series of public meetings during the summer of 2002, where legislative proposals for this session were discussed. All proposals involving changes to workers' compensation benefits were analyzed for their costs by the Workers' Compensation Administration research staff, the National Council on Compensation Insurance and New Mexico Mutual Casualty Company.

The specific language contained in this proposal has never been submitted to or reviewed by either the former or current Workers' Compensation Advisory Council. As such, according to the WCA, the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council opposes this bill.

RLG/prr/njw