

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7175
BILL NUMBER: HB 1537

DATE PREPARED: Dec 29, 1998
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Worker's compensation.

FISCAL ANALYST: Brian Tabor
PHONE NUMBER: 233-9456

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: This bill proposes several changes regarding worker's compensation. The bill contains the following provisions:

- Self-insured employers, insurance carriers, and third party administrators would be required to report an injury to an employee to the Worker's Compensation Board of Indiana by electronic data interchange by December 31, 1999, or with an approved implementation plan providing for the ability to report by electronic data interchange not later than June 30, 2000.
- An appeal of compensation due, continuance of payments, or the period for which compensation should be paid must be made to the Worker's Compensation Board of Indiana within 30 days of the date of the award.
- Applications to the Worker's Compensation Board of Indiana for increased partial impairment are barred unless filed within one year from the last day for which compensation was paid.
- An employer that does not join an employee injured in the course of employment by another person in a suit for damages from another person shall pay its pro rata share of costs, reasonable expenses, and attorney's fee of 25% if collected without a suit.
- An employer that does not join an employee injured in the course of employment by another person in a suit for damages from another person shall pay its pro rata share of costs, reasonable expenses, and an attorney's fee of 33 1/3% if collected by a suit.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures: There are no fiscal impacts associated with the provisions of this bill.

The costs related to the submission of injury reports via electronic data interchange would be borne by the self-insured employers, insurance carriers, and third-party administrators. The Worker's Compensation Board is currently equipped to receive these electronic submissions.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: The Worker's Compensation Board.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Sandy Fralich, Worker's Compensation Board of Indiana, (317) 232-3811.