



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Committee Bill No. 5861

LCO No. 3976

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:
(LAB)

AN ACT INCREASING THE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMANTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Subsection (a) of section 31-312 of the general statutes is repealed
2 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) [A person] An employee receiving medical attention under the
4 provisions of this chapter and required to be absent from work for
5 medical treatment, examination, laboratory tests, x-rays or other
6 diagnostic procedures, and not otherwise receiving or eligible to
7 receive weekly compensation, shall be compensated for the time lost
8 from the job for required medical treatment and tests at the rate of [his]
9 such employee's average earnings, but not less than at the minimum
10 wage established by law, provided the amount payable in any one
11 week shall not exceed the employee's weekly compensation rate. [of
12 the individual.] Time lost from the job shall include necessary travel
13 time from the plant to the place of treatment, the time for the treatment
14 and any other time that is necessary for the treatment, examination or
15 laboratory test. The employer shall furnish or pay for the
16 transportation of the employee by ambulance or taxi where

17 transportation is medically required from the point of [his] departure
18 for treatment and return. In all other cases, the employer shall furnish
19 the employee transportation or [reimburse him] reimbursement for the
20 cost of transportation actually used, at [the rate of fifteen cents per mile
21 for a private motor vehicle] a rate equal to the greater of thirty-four
22 and one-half cents per mile or the federal mileage reimbursement rate
23 for use of a privately owned automobile set forth in 41 CFR Part 301-
24 10.303, as from time to time amended, for a private motor vehicle or
25 the cost incurred for public transportation, from the employee's point
26 of departure, whether [his] from the employee's home or place of
27 employment, and return, if the employee is required to travel beyond a
28 one-fare limit on an available common carrier from the point of
29 departure to the place of treatment, examination or laboratory test.
30 Where the medical attention or treatment is provided at a time other
31 than during the employee's regular working hours and the employee is
32 not otherwise receiving or eligible to receive weekly compensation,
33 [he] the employee shall be compensated for the time involved for the
34 medical treatment as though it were time lost from the job at the rate of
35 [his] the employee's average hourly earnings and shall be paid for the
36 cost of necessary transportation as provided in this subsection.

Statement of Purpose:

To lessen the financial burden placed on workers' compensation claimants who are required to travel to medical and other appointments as a result of their workers' compensation claims.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. MERRILL, 54th Dist.