OLR Bill Analysis
sHB 5883

AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS’ COMPENSATION INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR DETOXIFICATION FOR CERTAIN INJURED EMPLOYEES, LOCAL AND REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION EMPLOYEE NOTICES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF LOST WAGES FOR APPEARANCE AT A DEPOSITION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires workers’ compensation benefits to include detoxification treatments for an injured employee who, because of a work-related injury, consumes opioid drugs prescribed in the course of the injury’s medical treatment for at least one year. The injured employee must request the detoxification treatment, which must be approved by a workers’ compensation commissioner.

The law generally requires an injured employee seeking workers’ compensation benefits to submit a written notice of claim for compensation to either a workers' compensation commissioner or the employer's last known residence or place of business. The bill requires someone employed by a local or regional board of education to submit the notice of claim to the local or regional board of education that employs him or her. Current law requires municipal employees to submit their notices of claim to the town clerk of the employing municipality, but is otherwise silent about board of education employees.

Lastly, the bill requires a workers’ compensation claimant’s benefits to include reimbursement for the wages the claimant lost while appearing at a deposition before a workers’ compensation commissioner, if the claimant is not already receiving compensation for the appearance. Existing law similarly requires claimants to be reimbursed for appearing at a conference or informal hearing before a commissioner.
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2019

COMMITTEE ACTION
Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 13  Nay 0   (03/21/2019)