



Bill Tracking – Washington State Legislature 2018

Note: Bills in gray type are considered no longer eligible for consideration this legislative session.

| Issue | Bill Numbers | Brief Summary | Position | Latest Status |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|---|
| First Responder OD Presumptions | 1655 | 1655/6214 create coverage and presumption of occupational disease for LEOFF members with PTSD. | Oppose each as introduced; seeking limiting amendments | 1655 passed House 85-11 on 1/18 |
| | 6214 | | | 6213 and 6214 passed out of committee |
| | 2633 | 2633/6213 expand the list of cancers and infections under current firefighter presumption, adds fire investigators, and creates new presumptions for law enforcement officers. | | 2633 is still being worked on |
| | 6213 | | | |
| Hanford Worker OD Presumptions | 1723 | Creates a presumption of occupational disease across a broad number of conditions for workers who have performed work at the Department of Energy Hanford site. | Oppose as introduced; seeking limiting amendments | 1723 passed House 76-22 on 1/11; as amended by Senate, passed 35-14 on 1/25 |
| | 5940 | | | |
| | 6343 | | | |

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| | | | | 5940 passed Senate LC Committee on 1/15 |
| | | | | 6343 passed Senate LC Committee on 1/24 |
| Pension Discount Rate | 2762 6393 | Creates separate pension reserving statutes for State Fund and Self-Insured pensions, to allow for discounting reserves using different assumptions. L&I agency request bill. | Support | 2762 heard 1/22, voted out of committee 1/24 6393 scheduled for hearing in Ways & Means 1/30 |
| Off-Duty Employee Conduct | 5667 | Provides that it is an unfair practice for an employer to take an adverse employment action, or discriminate, against an employee or prospective employee because that person participates in an activity that is lawful under state law. | Oppose; conflict with safety, drug testing policies | In Senate Committee |
| Hearing Aids | 6232 2591 | As introduced, would require replacement of hearing aids in workers' compensation claims at least once every 5 years | Concerns; would rather handle in fee schedule/rule | House version heard 1/10, Senate version scheduled for 1/31 hearing |

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| IMEs | 6226 | Requires SIE to submit records for IME electronically or, if on paper, within 10 days of scheduled IME and directs L&I to develop access to telemedicine in IMEs | Concerns | Heard in committee 1/22, awaiting committee vote |
| Mental Health Providers | 2865 6448 | Expands the list of provider types who may provide mental health services on workers' compensation claims | Oppose | Appears unlikely to move this session |
| Janitors | 6227 | Requires L&I to conduct a study of commercial janitorial safety and provide annual progress reports to the Legislature beginning 2018 until study is complete. | Monitor | Marked up in committee 1/17, in Senate Rules committee |
| Social Security Offset | 1336 6270 | Eliminates SS offset against time loss/pension payments for those workers who had applied for or were receiving SS benefits prior to injury. | Oppose/monitor | House version awaiting floor vote, Senate version heard 1/22 |
| WISHA Penalties | 1953 | L&I request legislation to conform WISHA maximum and minimum penalties to federal OSHA levels. | Monitor | Awaiting floor vote |
| Transportation contractors – defining “truck” | 2705 6478 | Defines “truck” for purposes of determining transportation contractors who are covered or not for workers' compensation. | Monitor | Senate version scheduled for public hearing 2/1 |

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| Intoxication and WC benefits | 1228 2697 | Limits benefits to medical aid for injuries caused by use of intoxicants. | Monitor/support | 2697 heard in committee 1/23; unlikely to move |
| Worker classification and portable benefits | 2812 | Creates a worker classification and benefits system, defining independent contractor versus covered employer for purposes of various benefit systems including workers' compensation | Monitor | Heard in committee 1/25 |