

Bill Tracking – Washington State Legislature 2020

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

Issue	Bill Numbers	Brief Summary	Position	Latest Status
Structured Settlements	<u>6372</u>	Removes the age restriction and accepted claim restriction for entering into a structured settlement, consistent with 2019 recommendation of the Upjohn Institute in their latest study of structured settlements in Washington	Support	Heard on 1/28 in the Senate Labor Committee; unlikely to see further action
Self-Insurance Allowance Orders	<u>6373</u>	Gives direct allowance order authority to self-insurers, consistent with a 2015 recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) in their performance audit of the system.	Support	Heard on 1/28 in the Senate Labor Committee; might be moved out of committee with amendment
Employer Penalties, Insurance Bad Faith, Self-	2409	Increases most employer penalties in Title 51 Makes self-insurance delay/denial benefit "per occurrence" not per order	Oppose High Priority	Public hearing held on 1/21 in House Labor Committee; scheduled for

Bill Tracking Sheet $\, \mid \, 2020 \, Legislative \, Session \,$

January 24, 2020

Page 1 of 3

Insurance Licensure		Creates administrative cause of action for insurance bad faith in claims handling against all employers Requires self-insured TPAs to become licensed		Committee vote on amendments February 6
IMEs	<u>6440</u> <u>2689</u>	Places significant restrictions on the use of IMEs by the Department or self-insured employers, regulates conduct of the IME provider, and provides new accommodations to claimants	Oppose High Priority	Heard on 1/28 in Senate Labor Committee; likely to be amended and passed out of committee next week
3-Day Waiting Period	<u>6552</u>	Eliminates the three-day waiting period for time loss benefits	Oppose	Heard on 1/28 in Senate Labor Committee
PTSD coverage for 911 Operators	<u>2758</u>	Would allow 911 operators to make occupational disease claims for PTSD as an exception to the general rule that mental conditions cannot be occupational diseases.	Oppose	Heard on 1/27 in the House Labor Committee; scheduled for committee vote on 02/04
Hiring marijuana users	2740	Subject to certain exceptions, would disallow an employer from refusing to hire a prospective employee because a screening test was positive for marijuana use.	Concerns	Heard on 1/28 in the House Labor Committee; scheduled for

Bill Tracking Sheet | 2020 Legislative Session January 31, 2020 Page 2 of 3

committee vote or
02/04

Captive Insurers – OIC Tax Bill	22916241	Recognizes employer use of captive insurers in Washington, subjects all national risk including workers' compensation to 2 percent premium tax	Oppose as written	Heard in committee 01/30
Captive Insurers – Employer Community Bill	6331 2493	Allows employer use of captive insurers in Washington, provides for registration fee	Support	Heard in committee 01/30; likely to move in some amended form
Mandatory WISHA training for construction workers	<u>2564</u>	Requires any construction worker or supervisor to participate in mandatory workplace safety and health training	Monitor	Heard in committee on 1/21 in House Labor Committee; set for committee vote on 02/06
Public Employee Shared Leave	2304	Allows public employees who can access the state's shared leave program to use that leave to top off their time loss benefits if on workers' comp.	Monitor	Heard on 01/27 in House Appropriations Committee