

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 1468

C 125 L 13
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Modifying payment methods on certain claimants' benefits.

Sponsors: Representatives Sells, Reykdal, Manweller, Condotta, Ormsby, Van De Wege, Fagan and Green; by request of Department of Labor & Industries.

House Committee on Labor & Workforce Development
Senate Committee on Commerce & Labor

Background:

The Department of Labor and Industries (Department) administers the Crime Victims' Compensation Program, which generally provides benefits to victims of criminal acts, subject to certain limitations. The Department also administers the Industrial Insurance Act that pays benefits such as wage replacement and medical expenses to workers injured in the course of employment.

Traditionally, the Department has paid benefits to claimants by checks called "warrants." Various sections of the statutes governing these programs use the term "warrant" or "check" when referencing how payment of benefits is made.

Summary:

The terms "check" and "warrants" are replaced with the term "payments" in various statutes governing the Crime Victims' Compensation Program and the Industrial Insurance Act. Explicit language is added to the relevant statutes to allow payments to be made by debit card or other electronic means. For the purposes of industrial insurance, the claimant must request in writing to have payments made using a debit card or other electronic means, and use of these payment options is at the discretion of the Department or the self-insured employer.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	97	0
Senate	48	0

Effective: July 28, 2013

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.