
**Labor & Workforce Development
Committee**

HB 1863

Brief Description: Allowing the department of labor and industries to provide information about certain scholarships.

Sponsors: Representatives Stonier, Chandler, Sells, Haler, Fitzgibbon, Ross, Bergquist, Goodman, Carlyle, Hope, Reykdal, Ormsby, Stanford, Green, Ryu, Pollet and Freeman.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Creates an exemption in the state Ethics in Public Service Act permitting the Department of Labor and Industries to provide information about scholarship opportunities available to the children and spouses of workers who suffered death or permanent total disability.

Hearing Date: 2/20/13

Staff: Joan Elgee (786-7106).

Background:

Workers who, in the course of employment, are injured or disabled by an occupational disease are entitled to benefits. A worker who suffers specified catastrophic injuries or other condition permanently incapacitating the worker from performing any work at any gainful occupation is entitled to permanent total disability benefits, also referred to as pension benefits. Survivors of workers who died as a result of a workplace injury may also be entitled to certain benefits. The Department of Labor and Industries (Department) administers the Industrial Insurance Act.

The state Ethics in Public Service Act (Act) generally prohibits the use of state resources for the private benefit of others and the granting of special privileges to others.

Summary of Bill:

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.

An exemption in the Act is created. The Department may provide information about scholarship opportunities offered by nonprofit organizations and available to the children and spouses of workers who suffered death or permanent total disability from a workplace injury. The Department has discretion to provide information about one or more scholarship opportunities. The cost of printing and inserting materials, any additional mailing costs, and any other related costs must be borne by the organization.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.