

1 **SSB 5965** - H COMM AMD **ADOPTED 4-10-97**

2 By Committee on Commerce & Labor

3 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
4 following:

5 "Sec. 1. RCW 51.44.170 and 1991 sp.s. c 13 s 29 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 The industrial insurance premium refund account is created in
8 the custody of the state~~((treasury))~~ treasurer. All industrial
9 insurance refunds earned by state agencies or institutions of
10 higher education under the state fund retrospective rating program
11 shall be deposited into the account. ~~((Moneys in the account may be
12 spent only after appropriation))~~ The account is subject to the
13 allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation
14 is required for expenditures from the account. Only the executive
15 head of the agency or institution of higher education, or designee,
16 may authorize expenditures from the account. No agency or
17 institution of higher education may ~~((receive an appropriation))~~
18 make an expenditure from the account for an amount greater than the
19 refund earned by the agency. If the agency or institution of
20 higher education has staff dedicated to workers' compensation
21 claims management, expenditures from the account must be used to
22 pay for that staff, but additional expenditure from the account
23 may be used for any program within an agency or institution of
24 higher education~~((, but preference shall be given to programs))~~
25 that promotes or provides incentives for employee workplace safety
26 and health and early, appropriate return-to-work for injured
27 employees.

28 **Sec. 2.** 1990 c 204 s 1 (uncodified) is amended to read as
29 follows:

30 The legislature finds that workplace safety in state
31 employment is of paramount importance in maintaining a productive
32 and committed state work force. The legislature also finds that
33 recognition in state agencies and institutions of higher education

1 of industrial insurance programs that provide safe working
2 environments and promote early return-to-work for injured employees
3 will encourage agencies and institutions of higher education to
4 develop these programs. A purpose of this act is to provide
5 incentives for agencies and institutions of higher education to
6 participate in industrial insurance safety programs and return-to-
7 work programs by authorizing use of the industrial insurance
8 premium refunds earned by agencies or institutions of higher
9 education participating in industrial insurance retrospective
10 rating programs. Since agency and institution of higher education
11 retrospective rating refunds are generated from safety performance
12 and cannot be set at predictable levels determined by the budget
13 process, the incentive awards should not impact an agency's or
14 institution of higher education's legislatively approved budget."

EFFECT: Technical corrections and clarifications. The premium refund account is moved to the custody of the state treasurer. The requirement for agencies to file requests for expenditures with the state treasurer is deleted and the head of the agency is authorized to make expenditures. The account is made subject to allotment under OFM rules.