

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 1261

56th Legislature  
1999 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 19, 1999  
Yeas 97 Nays 0

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 7, 1999  
Yeas 46 Nays 0

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

We, Dean R. Foster and Timothy A. Martin, Co-Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 1261** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Clerk**

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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HOUSE BILL 1261

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 1999 Regular Session

State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Romero, Conway, Voloria, Cooper, O'Brien and Kenney

Read first time 01/20/1999. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1            AN ACT Relating to modifications of motor vehicles of injured  
2 workers; and amending RCW 51.36.020.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 51.36.020 and 1982 c 63 s 12 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) When the injury to any worker is so serious as to require his  
7 or her being taken from the place of injury to a place of treatment,  
8 his or her employer shall, at the expense of the medical aid fund, or  
9 self-insurer, as the case may be, furnish transportation to the nearest  
10 place of proper treatment.

11            (2) Every worker whose injury results in the loss of one or more  
12 limbs or eyes shall be provided with proper artificial substitutes and  
13 every worker, who suffers an injury to an eye producing an error of  
14 refraction, shall be once provided proper and properly equipped lenses  
15 to correct such error of refraction and his or her disability rating  
16 shall be based upon the loss of sight before correction.

17            (3) Every worker whose accident results in damage to or destruction  
18 of an artificial limb, eye, or tooth, shall have same repaired or  
19 replaced.

1 (4) Every worker whose hearing aid or eyeglasses or lenses are  
2 damaged, destroyed, or lost as a result of an industrial accident shall  
3 have the same restored or replaced. The department or self-insurer  
4 shall be liable only for the cost of restoring damaged hearing aids or  
5 eyeglasses to their condition at the time of the accident.

6 (5) All mechanical appliances necessary in the treatment of an  
7 injured worker, such as braces, belts, casts, and crutches, shall be  
8 provided and all mechanical appliances required as permanent equipment  
9 after treatment has been completed shall continue to be provided or  
10 replaced without regard to the date of injury or date treatment was  
11 completed, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

12 (6) A worker, whose injury is of such short duration as to bring  
13 him or her within the time limit provisions of RCW 51.32.090, shall  
14 nevertheless receive during the omitted period medical, surgical, and  
15 hospital care and service and transportation under the provisions of  
16 this chapter.

17 (7) Whenever in the sole discretion of the supervisor it is  
18 reasonable and necessary to provide residence modifications necessary  
19 to meet the needs and requirements of the worker who has sustained  
20 catastrophic injury, the department or self-insurer may be ordered to  
21 pay an amount not to exceed the state's average annual wage for one  
22 year as determined under RCW 50.04.355, as now existing or hereafter  
23 amended, toward the cost of such modifications or construction. Such  
24 payment shall only be made for the construction or modification of a  
25 residence in which the injured worker resides. Only one residence of  
26 any worker may be modified or constructed under this subsection,  
27 although the supervisor may order more than one payment for any one  
28 home, up to the maximum amount permitted by this section.

29 (8)(a) Whenever in the sole discretion of the supervisor it is  
30 reasonable and necessary to modify a motor vehicle owned by a worker  
31 who has become an amputee or becomes paralyzed because of an industrial  
32 injury, the supervisor may order up to fifty percent of the state's  
33 average annual wage for one year, as determined under RCW 50.04.355,  
34 (~~as now existing or hereafter amended,~~) to be paid by the department  
35 or self-insurer toward the costs thereof.

36 (b) In the sole discretion of the supervisor after his or her  
37 review, the amount paid under this subsection may be increased by no  
38 more than four thousand dollars by written order of the supervisor.

1       (9) The benefits provided by subsections (7) and (8) of this  
2 section are available to any otherwise eligible worker regardless of  
3 the date of industrial injury.

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