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SENATE BILL 5341

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State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Keiser, Conway, Kohl-Welles, and Kline

Read first time 01/20/11. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection.

1 AN ACT Relating to notice to injured workers by self-insured  
2 employers; adding new sections to chapter 51.14 RCW; and prescribing  
3 penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 51.14 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) When paying temporary disability benefits as provided in RCW  
8 51.32.090, the self-insurer shall provide notice to the injured worker  
9 of the specific purpose of the payment and the time period for which  
10 the payment covers.

11 (2) When issuing the initial payment of temporary disability  
12 benefits, the self-insurer must notify the injured worker or  
13 beneficiary of the specific purpose of the payment and the time period  
14 each payment will cover.

15 (3) The insurer must provide an explanation to the injured worker  
16 or beneficiary when the benefit amount or time period covered changes.

17 (4) Failure of a self-insurer to comply with this section subjects  
18 the self-insurer to a penalty under RCW 51.48.080. The director shall

1 issue an order determining whether a violation has occurred within  
2 thirty days of a request by an injured worker.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 51.14 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 Failure of a self-insurer to comply with RCW 51.36.085 subjects the  
6 self-insurer to a penalty under RCW 51.48.080. The director shall  
7 issue an order determining whether a violation has occurred within  
8 thirty days of a request by an injured worker.

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