(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides that an order by the department of labor and industries awarding benefits shall become effective with benefits due on the date issued. Subject to this act, if the department order is appealed the order shall not be stayed pending a final decision on the merits unless ordered by the board.

Provides that, if upon reconsideration requested by a worker or medical provider, the department has ordered an increase in a permanent partial disability award from the amount reflected in an earlier order, the award reflected in the earlier order shall not be stayed pending a final decision on the merits.

Provides that, if a self-insured employer appeals an order setting the claimant's time loss rate, the claimant shall receive any time loss or pension benefits based upon the rate calculation that the employer most recently submitted to the department and payment of benefits at this rate shall not be stayed pending a final decision on the merits.