

EHB 1568 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Commerce & Trade

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 51.28 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 Physician assistants practicing with physician supervision as
6 required by chapters 18.57A and 18.71A RCW may assist the worker in
7 filing an application for benefits under this title pursuant to RCW
8 51.28.020 when a worker presents with a simple industrial injury. Such
9 claims are identified by criteria specified in rule including, but not
10 limited to, diagnosis code and whether the worker is expected to miss
11 time from work. However, a physician assistant shall not be permitted
12 to rate a worker's permanent partial disability under RCW 51.32.080, or
13 determine entitlement to death benefits under RCW 51.32.050, permanent
14 total disability benefits under RCW 51.32.060, or temporary total
15 disability, partial restoration of earning power, and return to work
16 benefits under RCW 51.32.090. The department may adopt rules necessary
17 to implement this section.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** By December 1, 2005, the department of labor
19 and industries shall report to the senate committee on commerce and
20 trade and the house committee on commerce and labor, or successor
21 committees, on the implementation of this act, including but not
22 limited to the effects of this act on injured worker outcomes, claim
23 costs, and disputed claims.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary
25 for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety,
26 or support of the state government and its existing public
27 institutions, and take effect July 1, 2003.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act expire June 30,
2 2006."

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3 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "industries;" strike the
4 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
5 51.28 RCW; creating a new section; providing an effective date;
6 providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency."

EFFECT: Physician assistants may assist a worker in completing an
application for medical benefits for a simple industrial injury.
Criteria for a simple industrial injury will be established in rule.

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