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**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8409**

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**State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session**

**By Senators Kohl-Welles and Parlette**

Read first time 03/10/2005.      Referred to Committee on Labor,  
Commerce, Research & Development.

1            WHEREAS, The industrial insurance system in this state has been in  
2 existence since 1911; and

3            WHEREAS, In the ninety-four years since its creation, there has  
4 rarely been agreement by stakeholders on the calculation of benefits,  
5 the premium rate-making process, the expenditures of funds from the  
6 accident and medical aid funds, and the general administration of the  
7 program by the state agency charged with its administration; and

8            WHEREAS, Over the years various groups have come together in an  
9 attempt to improve the system. While some positive changes have  
10 resulted from these efforts, both labor and business would agree that  
11 there are still improvements to the system that need to be made;

12            NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the state of  
13 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That a joint  
14 select committee on workers' compensation be established; and

15            BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee consist of eight  
16 members, four members of the senate, two from each of the two largest  
17 caucuses, selected by the president of the senate; and four members of  
18 the house of representatives, two from each of the two largest  
19 caucuses, selected by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall convene an  
2 advisory committee to assist it in its duties under this resolution;  
3 and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the advisory committee be composed of  
5 ten members. Four of the ten members shall be current members of the  
6 Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee, chosen by the joint select  
7 committee, two representing employers and two representing labor; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That of the remaining six members of the  
9 advisory committee, three shall represent employers and three shall  
10 represent labor. The six members shall be selected by the joint select  
11 committee members from two lists containing fifteen names, one list  
12 submitted by the Washington state labor council and the second list  
13 provided by the association of Washington business; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the persons chosen for the list  
15 submitted by the Washington state labor council must not be in a  
16 supervisory position and must be currently working in a position for  
17 which workers' compensation is provided; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the persons chosen for the list  
19 submitted by the association of Washington business shall currently be  
20 employers; that is, persons who operate a business that employs  
21 workers; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the six members of the advisory  
23 committee selected from the lists provided by the association of  
24 Washington business and the Washington state labor council cannot be  
25 current registered lobbyists under RCW 42.17.150 or have been  
26 registered lobbyists within the past five years, or currently supervise  
27 a registered lobbyist or have supervised a registered lobbyist within  
28 the past five years; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the issues the committee will address  
30 are limited to the following: Employability and vocational  
31 rehabilitation; final settlement agreements; independent medical  
32 examinations; wage simplification; alternative claims management; no  
33 fault/exclusive remedy system; definition of occupational disease and  
34 statute of limitations for filing; and right of entry under the  
35 Washington industrial health and safety act; and

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings and

1 recommendations to the legislature by December 31, 2005.

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