(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Directs the department of labor and industries to develop and implement an initiative to encourage the reporting of industrial insurance injuries by the worker to his or her employer and by the employer to the department. Under this initiative, the department must take steps to educate workers and employers about the benefits and importance of prompt reporting of injuries.

Requires the department to conduct a study of: (1) Claims that are not reported promptly, including but not limited to a review of the circumstances of such claims, the type of injuries involved in such claims, and the reasons for the failure to report such claims promptly; and

(2) The effect of the educational initiative required under this act on reducing delays in benefits payments and improving employer involvement in assisting with claims management.

Provides that, by December 1, 2006, the department must report on the results of the study to the appropriate committees of the legislature.

Expires July 1, 2007.