

HB 5603 — Department of Financial Services

by Government Operations Appropriations Committee and Rep. Hays (CS/SB 1512 by General Government Appropriations Committee; and Senators Baker and Lynn)

This bill amends statutes related to risk management and workers' compensation to achieve a number of efficiencies and cost savings measures. Specifically, the bill provides for the following.

- Requires all state agencies and state universities with more than 6,000 employees that are provided insurance coverage from the Division of Risk Management to establish and maintain a return-to-work program for injured state workers. Currently, each of the impacted agencies and state universities has some form of a return-to-work program.
- Requires the Division of Risk Management to utilize agency loss prevention results in addition to claims history as criteria for calculating state agency risk management premiums.
- Requires the Division of Risk Management to evaluate each agency's risk management programs at least once every five years and to produce reports recommending improvements. In addition, the bill outlines a process for each agency's response to the division's evaluation and recommendations. The General Appropriations Act provides \$298,478 and three positions to the division for workload related to oversight of the agencies' return-to-work and risk management programs.
- Requires that unencumbered and undisbursed funds transferred from the Workers' Compensation Administration Trust Fund revert to the fund each year.
- Revises requirements for determining the amount of reimbursement for repackaged or relabeled prescription medications for workers' compensation claimants regardless of the location or provider.
- Revises the responsibilities of the Division of Consumer Services within the Department of Financial Services to reflect organizational changes related to the Office of Insurance Regulation and the Office of Financial Regulation.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2010.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 120-0