



# Legislative update

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# Goals today



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HEADED YOUR WAY**

# Legislative process for WC issues

## **Legislature**

- Senate – 30 members
- House – 60 members

## **Workers' compensation bills assigned to**

- Senate Labor and Business Committee
- House Labor and Workplace Standards Committee
- Senate and House Judiciary Committees (Unfair Trade Practices Act)
- House Consumer Protection Committee

## **Appointments to boards and commissions (i.e. MLAC)**

- Senate Rules Committee, Senate confirmation vote

# Legislative process for WC issues

## **Every bill needs to have the following:**

- Public hearing(s)
  - Testimony from stakeholders, written or oral, in-person, or virtual
  - Recorded and posted online
- Work session(s)
  - Testimony limited to invited speakers
  - Committee vote, majority rules
  - Recorded and posted online
- Floor vote
- Repeat in other chamber

# Management Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC)

## **Comprised of 10 members serving a three-year term**

- 5 labor members
- 5 management members
- Appointed by Governor and confirmed by Senate

## **Monthly meetings, weekly during session**

## **Purpose**

- Advise the legislature on adequacy of benefits, medical and legal system costs, review legislative proposals
- Provide forum for stakeholder feedback
- Maintain a workplan



# 2025 Session

# Timelines

## **Session started in mid-January**

- ~3,400 bills introduced to-date

## **Remaining key dates for the remainder of the 2025 session**

- April 9<sup>th</sup> – First chamber deadline
- May 14<sup>th</sup> – Revenue forecast
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Second chamber deadline
- June 18<sup>th</sup> – Target sine die
- June 29<sup>th</sup> – Constitutional sine die

**MLAC – meeting every week**

# Time loss bills

## **SB 705**

For AWW below state AWW, rate is 100% of "net of payroll deductions"

## **SB 991**

Removes two bases for a worker to refuse an offer of modified work

## **HB 2745**

Time loss during investigation of a non-complying employer







# Disability awards and training

## **HB 2802**

Waiver of appeal rights for lump sum request

## **HB 2792**

Payment of work disability award even if worker in training

Redetermination of PTD once training completed

Option for worker to postpone training

# Presumption

## **SB 606**

Extend PTSD and acute stress disorder presumption to OSH and SACU



# Access to care

## **HB 3374**

SAIF coordinating and managing care proposal

Improve access for workers

Control medical costs

Medical provider support

Expand AP to NP and PA

## **HB 3490**

Allow chiropractor to be AP without restriction



# Modernization

## HB 2800

Changes “worker leasing company” to “professional employer organization” (PEO)

Reflect current business practice





# “Show me the money”

## **HB 2799 attorney costs**

Raise the \$1,500 cap and expand to all disputes

## **HB 3331 SAIF dividend**

Divert part of SAIF’s dividend to policyholders to set up an emergency preparedness fund

## **SB 5511 DCBS budget**

WCD modernization & WCB “paperless system”

## **SB 946 BOLI funding**

Transfer money from the WBF to fund BOLI, GRB \$ 15 million sweep

# “Show me the money”

## **SB 558**

PERS disability for firefighters and police officers with PTSD

## **HB 3329**

Relating to SAIF’s authority to set insurance rates

## **SB 885**

Make SAIF an insurer of last resort for damages to homes due to wildfires





# Administrative rulemaking

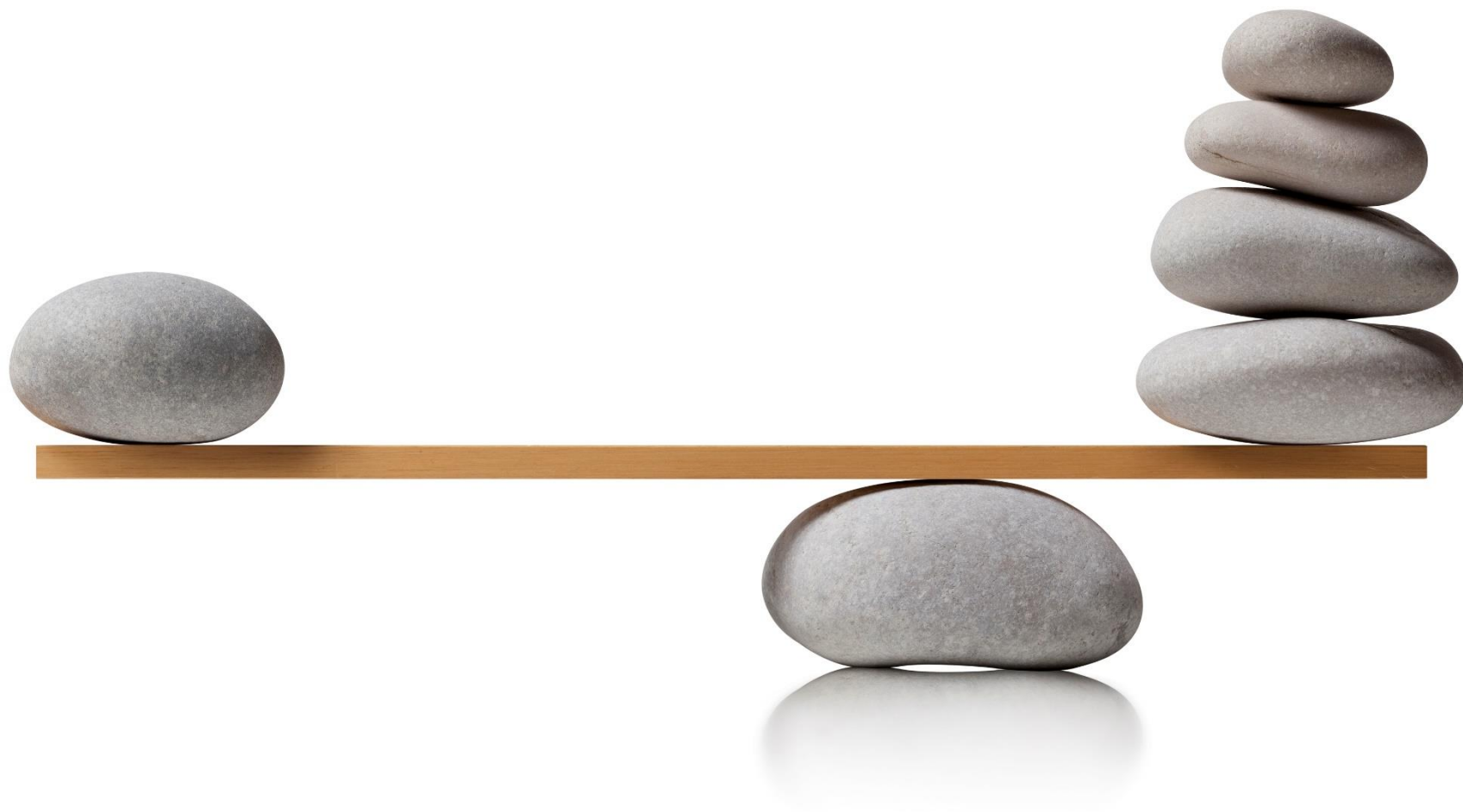
## **Workers' Compensation Board**

- OAR 438
- Biennial attorney fee review
- Simplify and improve denial language

## **Workers' Compensation Division**

- OAR 436
- Medical services
  - Fee schedule review
  - Telehealth
  - Interpreter billing
  - Response to surgery request
- Vocational training
  - Expand limited services

# Questions?





**saif** Work.  
Life.  
Oregon.