



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB6145

by Rep. Dwight Kay

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

820 ILCS 305/8

from Ch. 48, par. 138.8

Amends the Workers' Compensation Act. Provides that, in computing the compensation to be paid to an employee who, before the accident for which the employee claims compensation, had previously sustained an injury resulting in the payment of compensation for a percentage of partial disability, that percentage of partial disability shall be deducted from any award made for a subsequent injury to the same portion of the body as was involved in the prior injury for which compensation was paid; however, nothing in those provisions permits cumulative awards for compensation for partial disability to exceed 500 weeks, which shall constitute complete loss of use of the body as a whole. Provides that, for purposes of computing compensation in nonfatal cases, injuries to the shoulder shall be considered to be injuries to part of the arm and injuries to the hip shall be considered to be injuries to part of the leg and also provides that those amendatory changes are declarative of existing law and are not new enactments. Effective immediately.

LRB097 20980 KTG 68230 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning employment.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Workers' Compensation Act is amended by
5 changing Section 8 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 305/8) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.8)

7 Sec. 8. The amount of compensation which shall be paid to
8 the employee for an accidental injury not resulting in death
9 is:

10 (a) The employer shall provide and pay the negotiated rate,
11 if applicable, or the lesser of the health care provider's
12 actual charges or according to a fee schedule, subject to
13 Section 8.2, in effect at the time the service was rendered for
14 all the necessary first aid, medical and surgical services, and
15 all necessary medical, surgical and hospital services
16 thereafter incurred, limited, however, to that which is
17 reasonably required to cure or relieve from the effects of the
18 accidental injury, even if a health care provider sells,
19 transfers, or otherwise assigns an account receivable for
20 procedures, treatments, or services covered under this Act. If
21 the employer does not dispute payment of first aid, medical,
22 surgical, and hospital services, the employer shall make such
23 payment to the provider on behalf of the employee. The employer

1 shall also pay for treatment, instruction and training
2 necessary for the physical, mental and vocational
3 rehabilitation of the employee, including all maintenance
4 costs and expenses incidental thereto. If as a result of the
5 injury the employee is unable to be self-sufficient the
6 employer shall further pay for such maintenance or
7 institutional care as shall be required.

8 The employee may at any time elect to secure his own
9 physician, surgeon and hospital services at the employer's
10 expense, or,

11 Upon agreement between the employer and the employees, or
12 the employees' exclusive representative, and subject to the
13 approval of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, the
14 employer shall maintain a list of physicians, to be known as a
15 Panel of Physicians, who are accessible to the employees. The
16 employer shall post this list in a place or places easily
17 accessible to his employees. The employee shall have the right
18 to make an alternative choice of physician from such Panel if
19 he is not satisfied with the physician first selected. If, due
20 to the nature of the injury or its occurrence away from the
21 employer's place of business, the employee is unable to make a
22 selection from the Panel, the selection process from the Panel
23 shall not apply. The physician selected from the Panel may
24 arrange for any consultation, referral or other specialized
25 medical services outside the Panel at the employer's expense.
26 Provided that, in the event the Commission shall find that a

1 doctor selected by the employee is rendering improper or
2 inadequate care, the Commission may order the employee to
3 select another doctor certified or qualified in the medical
4 field for which treatment is required. If the employee refuses
5 to make such change the Commission may relieve the employer of
6 his obligation to pay the doctor's charges from the date of
7 refusal to the date of compliance.

8 Any vocational rehabilitation counselors who provide
9 service under this Act shall have appropriate certifications
10 which designate the counselor as qualified to render opinions
11 relating to vocational rehabilitation. Vocational
12 rehabilitation may include, but is not limited to, counseling
13 for job searches, supervising a job search program, and
14 vocational retraining including education at an accredited
15 learning institution. The employee or employer may petition to
16 the Commission to decide disputes relating to vocational
17 rehabilitation and the Commission shall resolve any such
18 dispute, including payment of the vocational rehabilitation
19 program by the employer.

20 The maintenance benefit shall not be less than the
21 temporary total disability rate determined for the employee. In
22 addition, maintenance shall include costs and expenses
23 incidental to the vocational rehabilitation program.

24 When the employee is working light duty on a part-time
25 basis or full-time basis and earns less than he or she would be
26 earning if employed in the full capacity of the job or jobs,

1 then the employee shall be entitled to temporary partial
2 disability benefits. Temporary partial disability benefits
3 shall be equal to two-thirds of the difference between the
4 average amount that the employee would be able to earn in the
5 full performance of his or her duties in the occupation in
6 which he or she was engaged at the time of accident and the
7 gross amount which he or she is earning in the modified job
8 provided to the employee by the employer or in any other job
9 that the employee is working.

10 Every hospital, physician, surgeon or other person
11 rendering treatment or services in accordance with the
12 provisions of this Section shall upon written request furnish
13 full and complete reports thereof to, and permit their records
14 to be copied by, the employer, the employee or his dependents,
15 as the case may be, or any other party to any proceeding for
16 compensation before the Commission, or their attorneys.

17 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the employer's liability to
18 pay for such medical services selected by the employee shall be
19 limited to:

20 (1) all first aid and emergency treatment; plus

21 (2) all medical, surgical and hospital services
22 provided by the physician, surgeon or hospital initially
23 chosen by the employee or by any other physician,
24 consultant, expert, institution or other provider of
25 services recommended by said initial service provider or
26 any subsequent provider of medical services in the chain of

1 referrals from said initial service provider; plus
2 (3) all medical, surgical and hospital services
3 provided by any second physician, surgeon or hospital
4 subsequently chosen by the employee or by any other
5 physician, consultant, expert, institution or other
6 provider of services recommended by said second service
7 provider or any subsequent provider of medical services in
8 the chain of referrals from said second service provider.
9 Thereafter the employer shall select and pay for all
10 necessary medical, surgical and hospital treatment and the
11 employee may not select a provider of medical services at
12 the employer's expense unless the employer agrees to such
13 selection. At any time the employee may obtain any medical
14 treatment he desires at his own expense. This paragraph
15 shall not affect the duty to pay for rehabilitation
16 referred to above.

17 (4) The following shall apply for injuries occurring on
18 or after June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act
19 97-18) ~~this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly~~ and
20 only when an employer has an approved preferred provider
21 program pursuant to Section 8.1a on the date the employee
22 sustained his or her accidental injuries:

23 (A) The employer shall, in writing, on a form
24 promulgated by the Commission, inform the employee of
25 the preferred provider program;

26 (B) Subsequent to the report of an injury by an

1 employee, the employee may choose in writing at any
2 time to decline the preferred provider program, in
3 which case that would constitute one of the two choices
4 of medical providers to which the employee is entitled
5 under subsection (a) (2) or (a) (3); and

6 (C) Prior to the report of an injury by an
7 employee, when an employee chooses non-emergency
8 treatment from a provider not within the preferred
9 provider program, that would constitute the employee's
10 one choice of medical providers to which the employee
11 is entitled under subsection (a) (2) or (a) (3).

12 When an employer and employee so agree in writing, nothing
13 in this Act prevents an employee whose injury or disability has
14 been established under this Act, from relying in good faith, on
15 treatment by prayer or spiritual means alone, in accordance
16 with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or
17 religious denomination, by a duly accredited practitioner
18 thereof, and having nursing services appropriate therewith,
19 without suffering loss or diminution of the compensation
20 benefits under this Act. However, the employee shall submit to
21 all physical examinations required by this Act. The cost of
22 such treatment and nursing care shall be paid by the employee
23 unless the employer agrees to make such payment.

24 Where the accidental injury results in the amputation of an
25 arm, hand, leg or foot, or the enucleation of an eye, or the
26 loss of any of the natural teeth, the employer shall furnish an

1 artificial of any such members lost or damaged in accidental
2 injury arising out of and in the course of employment, and
3 shall also furnish the necessary braces in all proper and
4 necessary cases. In cases of the loss of a member or members by
5 amputation, the employer shall, whenever necessary, maintain
6 in good repair, refit or replace the artificial limbs during
7 the lifetime of the employee. Where the accidental injury
8 accompanied by physical injury results in damage to a denture,
9 eye glasses or contact eye lenses, or where the accidental
10 injury results in damage to an artificial member, the employer
11 shall replace or repair such denture, glasses, lenses, or
12 artificial member.

13 The furnishing by the employer of any such services or
14 appliances is not an admission of liability on the part of the
15 employer to pay compensation.

16 The furnishing of any such services or appliances or the
17 servicing thereof by the employer is not the payment of
18 compensation.

19 (b) If the period of temporary total incapacity for work
20 lasts more than 3 working days, weekly compensation as
21 hereinafter provided shall be paid beginning on the 4th day of
22 such temporary total incapacity and continuing as long as the
23 total temporary incapacity lasts. In cases where the temporary
24 total incapacity for work continues for a period of 14 days or
25 more from the day of the accident compensation shall commence
26 on the day after the accident.

1 1. The compensation rate for temporary total
2 incapacity under this paragraph (b) of this Section shall
3 be equal to 66 2/3% of the employee's average weekly wage
4 computed in accordance with Section 10, provided that it
5 shall be not less than 66 2/3% of the sum of the Federal
6 minimum wage under the Fair Labor Standards Act, or the
7 Illinois minimum wage under the Minimum Wage Law, whichever
8 is more, multiplied by 40 hours. This percentage rate shall
9 be increased by 10% for each spouse and child, not to
10 exceed 100% of the total minimum wage calculation,
11 nor exceed the employee's average weekly wage computed in
12 accordance with the provisions of Section 10, whichever is
13 less.

14 2. The compensation rate in all cases other than for
15 temporary total disability under this paragraph (b), and
16 other than for serious and permanent disfigurement under
17 paragraph (c) and other than for permanent partial
18 disability under subparagraph (2) of paragraph (d) or under
19 paragraph (e), of this Section shall be equal to 66 2/3% of
20 the employee's average weekly wage computed in accordance
21 with the provisions of Section 10, provided that it shall
22 be not less than 66 2/3% of the sum of the Federal minimum
23 wage under the Fair Labor Standards Act, or the Illinois
24 minimum wage under the Minimum Wage Law, whichever is more,
25 multiplied by 40 hours. This percentage rate shall be
26 increased by 10% for each spouse and child, not to exceed

1 100% of the total minimum wage calculation,
2 nor exceed the employee's average weekly wage computed in
3 accordance with the provisions of Section 10, whichever is
4 less.

5 2.1. The compensation rate in all cases of serious and
6 permanent disfigurement under paragraph (c) and of
7 permanent partial disability under subparagraph (2) of
8 paragraph (d) or under paragraph (e) of this Section shall
9 be equal to 60% of the employee's average weekly wage
10 computed in accordance with the provisions of Section 10,
11 provided that it shall be not less than 66 2/3% of the sum
12 of the Federal minimum wage under the Fair Labor Standards
13 Act, or the Illinois minimum wage under the Minimum Wage
14 Law, whichever is more, multiplied by 40 hours. This
15 percentage rate shall be increased by 10% for each spouse
16 and child, not to exceed 100% of the total minimum wage
17 calculation,
18 nor exceed the employee's average weekly wage computed in
19 accordance with the provisions of Section 10, whichever is
20 less.

21 3. As used in this Section the term "child" means a
22 child of the employee including any child legally adopted
23 before the accident or whom at the time of the accident the
24 employee was under legal obligation to support or to whom
25 the employee stood in loco parentis, and who at the time of
26 the accident was under 18 years of age and not emancipated.

1 The term "children" means the plural of "child".

2 4. All weekly compensation rates provided under
3 subparagraphs 1, 2 and 2.1 of this paragraph (b) of this
4 Section shall be subject to the following limitations:

5 The maximum weekly compensation rate from July 1, 1975,
6 except as hereinafter provided, shall be 100% of the
7 State's average weekly wage in covered industries under the
8 Unemployment Insurance Act, that being the wage that most
9 closely approximates the State's average weekly wage.

10 The maximum weekly compensation rate, for the period
11 July 1, 1984, through June 30, 1987, except as hereinafter
12 provided, shall be \$293.61. Effective July 1, 1987 and on
13 July 1 of each year thereafter the maximum weekly
14 compensation rate, except as hereinafter provided, shall
15 be determined as follows: if during the preceding 12 month
16 period there shall have been an increase in the State's
17 average weekly wage in covered industries under the
18 Unemployment Insurance Act, the weekly compensation rate
19 shall be proportionately increased by the same percentage
20 as the percentage of increase in the State's average weekly
21 wage in covered industries under the Unemployment
22 Insurance Act during such period.

23 The maximum weekly compensation rate, for the period
24 January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1983, except as
25 hereinafter provided, shall be 100% of the State's average
26 weekly wage in covered industries under the Unemployment

1 Insurance Act in effect on January 1, 1981. Effective
2 January 1, 1984 and on January 1, of each year thereafter
3 the maximum weekly compensation rate, except as
4 hereinafter provided, shall be determined as follows: if
5 during the preceding 12 month period there shall have been
6 an increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
7 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act, the
8 weekly compensation rate shall be proportionately
9 increased by the same percentage as the percentage of
10 increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
11 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act during
12 such period.

13 From July 1, 1977 and thereafter such maximum weekly
14 compensation rate in death cases under Section 7, and
15 permanent total disability cases under paragraph (f) or
16 subparagraph 18 of paragraph (3) of this Section and for
17 temporary total disability under paragraph (b) of this
18 Section and for amputation of a member or enucleation of an
19 eye under paragraph (e) of this Section shall be increased
20 to 133-1/3% of the State's average weekly wage in covered
21 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

22 For injuries occurring on or after February 1, 2006,
23 the maximum weekly benefit under paragraph (d)1 of this
24 Section shall be 100% of the State's average weekly wage in
25 covered industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

26 4.1. Any provision herein to the contrary

1 notwithstanding, the weekly compensation rate for
2 compensation payments under subparagraph 18 of paragraph
3 (e) of this Section and under paragraph (f) of this Section
4 and under paragraph (a) of Section 7 and for amputation of
5 a member or enucleation of an eye under paragraph (e) of
6 this Section, shall in no event be less than 50% of the
7 State's average weekly wage in covered industries under the
8 Unemployment Insurance Act.

9 4.2. Any provision to the contrary notwithstanding,
10 the total compensation payable under Section 7 shall not
11 exceed the greater of \$500,000 or 25 years.

12 5. For the purpose of this Section this State's average
13 weekly wage in covered industries under the Unemployment
14 Insurance Act on July 1, 1975 is hereby fixed at \$228.16
15 per week and the computation of compensation rates shall be
16 based on the aforesaid average weekly wage until modified
17 as hereinafter provided.

18 6. The Department of Employment Security of the State
19 shall on or before the first day of December, 1977, and on
20 or before the first day of June, 1978, and on the first day
21 of each December and June of each year thereafter, publish
22 the State's average weekly wage in covered industries under
23 the Unemployment Insurance Act and the Illinois Workers'
24 Compensation Commission shall on the 15th day of January,
25 1978 and on the 15th day of July, 1978 and on the 15th day
26 of each January and July of each year thereafter, post and

1 publish the State's average weekly wage in covered
2 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act as last
3 determined and published by the Department of Employment
4 Security. The amount when so posted and published shall be
5 conclusive and shall be applicable as the basis of
6 computation of compensation rates until the next posting
7 and publication as aforesaid.

8 7. The payment of compensation by an employer or his
9 insurance carrier to an injured employee shall not
10 constitute an admission of the employer's liability to pay
11 compensation.

12 (c) For any serious and permanent disfigurement to the
13 hand, head, face, neck, arm, leg below the knee or the chest
14 above the axillary line, the employee is entitled to
15 compensation for such disfigurement, the amount determined by
16 agreement at any time or by arbitration under this Act, at a
17 hearing not less than 6 months after the date of the accidental
18 injury, which amount shall not exceed 150 weeks (if the
19 accidental injury occurs on or after the effective date of this
20 amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly but before February
21 1, 2006) or 162 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
22 after February 1, 2006) at the applicable rate provided in
23 subparagraph 2.1 of paragraph (b) of this Section.

24 No compensation is payable under this paragraph where
25 compensation is payable under paragraphs (d), (e) or (f) of
26 this Section.

1 A duly appointed member of a fire department in a city, the
2 population of which exceeds 500,000 according to the last
3 federal or State census, is eligible for compensation under
4 this paragraph only where such serious and permanent
5 disfigurement results from burns.

6 (d) 1. If, after the accidental injury has been sustained,
7 the employee as a result thereof becomes partially
8 incapacitated from pursuing his usual and customary line of
9 employment, he shall, except in cases compensated under the
10 specific schedule set forth in paragraph (e) of this Section,
11 receive compensation for the duration of his disability,
12 subject to the limitations as to maximum amounts fixed in
13 paragraph (b) of this Section, equal to 66-2/3% of the
14 difference between the average amount which he would be able to
15 earn in the full performance of his duties in the occupation in
16 which he was engaged at the time of the accident and the
17 average amount which he is earning or is able to earn in some
18 suitable employment or business after the accident. For
19 accidental injuries that occur on or after September 1, 2011,
20 an award for wage differential under this subsection shall be
21 effective only until the employee reaches the age of 67 or 5
22 years from the date the award becomes final, whichever is
23 later.

24 2. If, as a result of the accident, the employee sustains
25 serious and permanent injuries not covered by paragraphs (c)
26 and (e) of this Section or having sustained injuries covered by

1 the aforesaid paragraphs (c) and (e), he shall have sustained
2 in addition thereto other injuries which injuries do not
3 incapacitate him from pursuing the duties of his employment but
4 which would disable him from pursuing other suitable
5 occupations, or which have otherwise resulted in physical
6 impairment; or if such injuries partially incapacitate him from
7 pursuing the duties of his usual and customary line of
8 employment but do not result in an impairment of earning
9 capacity, or having resulted in an impairment of earning
10 capacity, the employee elects to waive his right to recover
11 under the foregoing subparagraph 1 of paragraph (d) of this
12 Section then in any of the foregoing events, he shall receive
13 in addition to compensation for temporary total disability
14 under paragraph (b) of this Section, compensation at the rate
15 provided in subparagraph 2.1 of paragraph (b) of this Section
16 for that percentage of 500 weeks that the partial disability
17 resulting from the injuries covered by this paragraph bears to
18 total disability.

19 In computing the compensation to be paid to any employee
20 who, before the accident for which he or she claims
21 compensation, had previously sustained an injury resulting in
22 the payment of compensation for a percentage of partial
23 disability under this subparagraph 2, such percentage of
24 partial disability shall be deducted from any award made under
25 this subparagraph 2 for a subsequent injury to the same portion
26 of the body as was involved in the prior injury for which

1 compensation was paid; provided, however, nothing herein
2 contained shall permit cumulative awards for compensation for
3 partial disability under this subparagraph 2 to exceed 500
4 weeks, which shall constitute complete loss of use of the body
5 as a whole.

6 If, as a result of the accident, the employee shall have
7 sustained a fracture of one or more vertebra or fracture of the
8 skull, the amount of compensation allowed under this Section
9 shall be not less than 6 weeks for a fractured skull and 6
10 weeks for each fractured vertebra, and in the event the
11 employee shall have sustained a fracture of any of the
12 following facial bones: nasal, lachrymal, vomer, zygoma,
13 maxilla, palatine or mandible, the amount of compensation
14 allowed under this Section shall be not less than 2 weeks for
15 each such fractured bone, and for a fracture of each transverse
16 process not less than 3 weeks. In the event such injuries shall
17 result in the loss of a kidney, spleen or lung, the amount of
18 compensation allowed under this Section shall be not less than
19 10 weeks for each such organ. Compensation awarded under this
20 subparagraph 2 shall not take into consideration injuries
21 covered under paragraphs (c) and (e) of this Section and the
22 compensation provided in this paragraph shall not affect the
23 employee's right to compensation payable under paragraphs (b),
24 (c) and (e) of this Section for the disabilities therein
25 covered.

26 (e) For accidental injuries in the following schedule, the

1 employee shall receive compensation for the period of temporary
2 total incapacity for work resulting from such accidental
3 injury, under subparagraph 1 of paragraph (b) of this Section,
4 and shall receive in addition thereto compensation for a
5 further period for the specific loss herein mentioned, but
6 shall not receive any compensation under any other provisions
7 of this Act. The following listed amounts apply to either the
8 loss of or the permanent and complete loss of use of the member
9 specified, such compensation for the length of time as follows:

10 1. Thumb-

11 70 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
12 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
13 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

14 76 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
15 after February 1, 2006.

16 2. First, or index finger-

17 40 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
18 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
19 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

20 43 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
21 after February 1, 2006.

22 3. Second, or middle finger-

23 35 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
24 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
25 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

26 38 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or

1 after February 1, 2006.

2 4. Third, or ring finger-

3 25 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
4 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
5 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

6 27 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
7 after February 1, 2006.

8 5. Fourth, or little finger-

9 20 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
10 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
11 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

12 22 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
13 after February 1, 2006.

14 6. Great toe-

15 35 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
16 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
17 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

18 38 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
19 after February 1, 2006.

20 7. Each toe other than great toe-

21 12 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
22 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
23 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

24 13 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
25 after February 1, 2006.

26 8. The loss of the first or distal phalanx of the thumb

1 or of any finger or toe shall be considered to be equal to
2 the loss of one-half of such thumb, finger or toe and the
3 compensation payable shall be one-half of the amount above
4 specified. The loss of more than one phalanx shall be
5 considered as the loss of the entire thumb, finger or toe.
6 In no case shall the amount received for more than one
7 finger exceed the amount provided in this schedule for the
8 loss of a hand.

9 9. Hand-

10 190 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
11 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
12 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

13 205 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
14 after February 1, 2006.

15 190 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
16 after June 28, 2011 (the effective date of Public Act
17 97-18) ~~this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly~~
18 and if the accidental injury involves carpal tunnel
19 syndrome due to repetitive or cumulative trauma, in
20 which case the permanent partial disability shall not
21 exceed 15% loss of use of the hand, except for cause
22 shown by clear and convincing evidence and in which
23 case the award shall not exceed 30% loss of use of the
24 hand.

25 The loss of 2 or more digits, or one or more phalanges
26 of 2 or more digits, of a hand may be compensated on the

1 basis of partial loss of use of a hand, provided, further,
2 that the loss of 4 digits, or the loss of use of 4 digits,
3 in the same hand shall constitute the complete loss of a
4 hand.

5 10. Arm-

6 235 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
7 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
8 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

9 253 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
10 after February 1, 2006.

11 Where an accidental injury results in the amputation of
12 an arm below the elbow, such injury shall be compensated as
13 a loss of an arm. Where an accidental injury results in the
14 amputation of an arm above the elbow, compensation for an
15 additional 15 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
16 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
17 General Assembly but before February 1, 2006) or an
18 additional 17 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
19 after February 1, 2006) shall be paid, except where the
20 accidental injury results in the amputation of an arm at
21 the shoulder joint, or so close to shoulder joint that an
22 artificial arm cannot be used, or results in the
23 disarticulation of an arm at the shoulder joint, in which
24 case compensation for an additional 65 weeks (if the
25 accidental injury occurs on or after the effective date of
26 this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly but before

1 February 1, 2006) or an additional 70 weeks (if the
2 accidental injury occurs on or after February 1, 2006)
3 shall be paid. For purposes of awards under this
4 subdivision (e), injuries to the shoulder shall be
5 considered to be injuries to part of the arm. This
6 amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly is declarative
7 of existing law and is not a new enactment.

8 11. Foot-

9 155 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
10 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
11 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

12 167 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
13 after February 1, 2006.

14 12. Leg-

15 200 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
16 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
17 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

18 215 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
19 after February 1, 2006.

20 Where an accidental injury results in the amputation of
21 a leg below the knee, such injury shall be compensated as
22 loss of a leg. Where an accidental injury results in the
23 amputation of a leg above the knee, compensation for an
24 additional 25 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
25 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
26 General Assembly but before February 1, 2006) or an

1 additional 27 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
2 after February 1, 2006) shall be paid, except where the
3 accidental injury results in the amputation of a leg at the
4 hip joint, or so close to the hip joint that an artificial
5 leg cannot be used, or results in the disarticulation of a
6 leg at the hip joint, in which case compensation for an
7 additional 75 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
8 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
9 General Assembly but before February 1, 2006) or an
10 additional 81 weeks (if the accidental injury occurs on or
11 after February 1, 2006) shall be paid.

12 For purposes of awards under this subdivision (e),
13 injuries to the hip shall be considered to be injuries to
14 part of the leg. This amendatory Act of the 97th General
15 Assembly is declarative of existing law and is not a new
16 enactment.

17 13. Eye-

18 150 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
19 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
20 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

21 162 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
22 after February 1, 2006.

23 Where an accidental injury results in the enucleation
24 of an eye, compensation for an additional 10 weeks (if the
25 accidental injury occurs on or after the effective date of
26 this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly but before

1 February 1, 2006) or an additional 11 weeks (if the
2 accidental injury occurs on or after February 1, 2006)
3 shall be paid.

4 14. Loss of hearing of one ear-

5 50 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
6 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
7 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

8 54 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
9 after February 1, 2006.

10 Total and permanent loss of hearing of both ears-

11 200 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
12 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
13 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

14 215 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
15 after February 1, 2006.

16 15. Testicle-

17 50 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
18 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
19 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

20 54 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
21 after February 1, 2006.

22 Both testicles-

23 150 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or
24 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
25 94th General Assembly but before February 1, 2006.

26 162 weeks if the accidental injury occurs on or

1 after February 1, 2006.

2 16. For the permanent partial loss of use of a member
3 or sight of an eye, or hearing of an ear, compensation
4 during that proportion of the number of weeks in the
5 foregoing schedule provided for the loss of such member or
6 sight of an eye, or hearing of an ear, which the partial
7 loss of use thereof bears to the total loss of use of such
8 member, or sight of eye, or hearing of an ear.

9 (a) Loss of hearing for compensation purposes
10 shall be confined to the frequencies of 1,000, 2,000
11 and 3,000 cycles per second. Loss of hearing ability
12 for frequency tones above 3,000 cycles per second are
13 not to be considered as constituting disability for
14 hearing.

15 (b) The percent of hearing loss, for purposes of
16 the determination of compensation claims for
17 occupational deafness, shall be calculated as the
18 average in decibels for the thresholds of hearing for
19 the frequencies of 1,000, 2,000 and 3,000 cycles per
20 second. Pure tone air conduction audiometric
21 instruments, approved by nationally recognized
22 authorities in this field, shall be used for measuring
23 hearing loss. If the losses of hearing average 30
24 decibels or less in the 3 frequencies, such losses of
25 hearing shall not then constitute any compensable
26 hearing disability. If the losses of hearing average 85

1	90	8
2	92	6
3	95	4
4	97	3
5	100	2
6	102	1-1/2
7	105	1
8	110	1/2
9	115	1/4

10 This subparagraph (f) shall not be applied in cases of
11 hearing loss resulting from trauma or explosion.

12 17. In computing the compensation to be paid to any
13 employee who, before the accident for which he claims
14 compensation, had before that time sustained an injury
15 resulting in the loss by amputation or partial loss by
16 amputation of any member, including hand, arm, thumb or
17 fingers, leg, foot or any toes, such loss or partial loss
18 of any such member shall be deducted from any award made
19 for the subsequent injury. For the permanent loss of use or
20 the permanent partial loss of use of any such member or the
21 partial loss of sight of an eye, for which compensation has
22 been paid, then such loss shall be taken into consideration
23 and deducted from any award for the subsequent injury.

24 18. The specific case of loss of both hands, both arms,
25 or both feet, or both legs, or both eyes, or of any two
26 thereof, or the permanent and complete loss of the use

1 thereof, constitutes total and permanent disability, to be
2 compensated according to the compensation fixed by
3 paragraph (f) of this Section. These specific cases of
4 total and permanent disability do not exclude other cases.

5 Any employee who has previously suffered the loss or
6 permanent and complete loss of the use of any of such
7 members, and in a subsequent independent accident loses
8 another or suffers the permanent and complete loss of the
9 use of any one of such members the employer for whom the
10 injured employee is working at the time of the last
11 independent accident is liable to pay compensation only for
12 the loss or permanent and complete loss of the use of the
13 member occasioned by the last independent accident.

14 19. In a case of specific loss and the subsequent death
15 of such injured employee from other causes than such injury
16 leaving a widow, widower, or dependents surviving before
17 payment or payment in full for such injury, then the amount
18 due for such injury is payable to the widow or widower and,
19 if there be no widow or widower, then to such dependents,
20 in the proportion which such dependency bears to total
21 dependency.

22 Beginning July 1, 1980, and every 6 months thereafter, the
23 Commission shall examine the Second Injury Fund and when, after
24 deducting all advances or loans made to such Fund, the amount
25 therein is \$500,000 then the amount required to be paid by
26 employers pursuant to paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be

1 reduced by one-half. When the Second Injury Fund reaches the
2 sum of \$600,000 then the payments shall cease entirely.
3 However, when the Second Injury Fund has been reduced to
4 \$400,000, payment of one-half of the amounts required by
5 paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be resumed, in the manner
6 herein provided, and when the Second Injury Fund has been
7 reduced to \$300,000, payment of the full amounts required by
8 paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be resumed, in the manner
9 herein provided. The Commission shall make the changes in
10 payment effective by general order, and the changes in payment
11 become immediately effective for all cases coming before the
12 Commission thereafter either by settlement agreement or final
13 order, irrespective of the date of the accidental injury.

14 On August 1, 1996 and on February 1 and August 1 of each
15 subsequent year, the Commission shall examine the special fund
16 designated as the "Rate Adjustment Fund" and when, after
17 deducting all advances or loans made to said fund, the amount
18 therein is \$4,000,000, the amount required to be paid by
19 employers pursuant to paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be
20 reduced by one-half. When the Rate Adjustment Fund reaches the
21 sum of \$5,000,000 the payment therein shall cease entirely.
22 However, when said Rate Adjustment Fund has been reduced to
23 \$3,000,000 the amounts required by paragraph (f) of Section 7
24 shall be resumed in the manner herein provided.

25 (f) In case of complete disability, which renders the
26 employee wholly and permanently incapable of work, or in the

1 specific case of total and permanent disability as provided in
2 subparagraph 18 of paragraph (e) of this Section, compensation
3 shall be payable at the rate provided in subparagraph 2 of
4 paragraph (b) of this Section for life.

5 An employee entitled to benefits under paragraph (f) of
6 this Section shall also be entitled to receive from the Rate
7 Adjustment Fund provided in paragraph (f) of Section 7 of the
8 supplementary benefits provided in paragraph (g) of this
9 Section 8.

10 If any employee who receives an award under this paragraph
11 afterwards returns to work or is able to do so, and earns or is
12 able to earn as much as before the accident, payments under
13 such award shall cease. If such employee returns to work, or is
14 able to do so, and earns or is able to earn part but not as much
15 as before the accident, such award shall be modified so as to
16 conform to an award under paragraph (d) of this Section. If
17 such award is terminated or reduced under the provisions of
18 this paragraph, such employees have the right at any time
19 within 30 months after the date of such termination or
20 reduction to file petition with the Commission for the purpose
21 of determining whether any disability exists as a result of the
22 original accidental injury and the extent thereof.

23 Disability as enumerated in subdivision 18, paragraph (e)
24 of this Section is considered complete disability.

25 If an employee who had previously incurred loss or the
26 permanent and complete loss of use of one member, through the

1 loss or the permanent and complete loss of the use of one hand,
2 one arm, one foot, one leg, or one eye, incurs permanent and
3 complete disability through the loss or the permanent and
4 complete loss of the use of another member, he shall receive,
5 in addition to the compensation payable by the employer and
6 after such payments have ceased, an amount from the Second
7 Injury Fund provided for in paragraph (f) of Section 7, which,
8 together with the compensation payable from the employer in
9 whose employ he was when the last accidental injury was
10 incurred, will equal the amount payable for permanent and
11 complete disability as provided in this paragraph of this
12 Section.

13 The custodian of the Second Injury Fund provided for in
14 paragraph (f) of Section 7 shall be joined with the employer as
15 a party respondent in the application for adjustment of claim.
16 The application for adjustment of claim shall state briefly and
17 in general terms the approximate time and place and manner of
18 the loss of the first member.

19 In its award the Commission or the Arbitrator shall
20 specifically find the amount the injured employee shall be
21 weekly paid, the number of weeks compensation which shall be
22 paid by the employer, the date upon which payments begin out of
23 the Second Injury Fund provided for in paragraph (f) of Section
24 7 of this Act, the length of time the weekly payments continue,
25 the date upon which the pension payments commence and the
26 monthly amount of the payments. The Commission shall 30 days

1 after the date upon which payments out of the Second Injury
2 Fund have begun as provided in the award, and every month
3 thereafter, prepare and submit to the State Comptroller a
4 voucher for payment for all compensation accrued to that date
5 at the rate fixed by the Commission. The State Comptroller
6 shall draw a warrant to the injured employee along with a
7 receipt to be executed by the injured employee and returned to
8 the Commission. The endorsed warrant and receipt is a full and
9 complete acquittance to the Commission for the payment out of
10 the Second Injury Fund. No other appropriation or warrant is
11 necessary for payment out of the Second Injury Fund. The Second
12 Injury Fund is appropriated for the purpose of making payments
13 according to the terms of the awards.

14 As of July 1, 1980 to July 1, 1982, all claims against and
15 obligations of the Second Injury Fund shall become claims
16 against and obligations of the Rate Adjustment Fund to the
17 extent there is insufficient money in the Second Injury Fund to
18 pay such claims and obligations. In that case, all references
19 to "Second Injury Fund" in this Section shall also include the
20 Rate Adjustment Fund.

21 (g) Every award for permanent total disability entered by
22 the Commission on and after July 1, 1965 under which
23 compensation payments shall become due and payable after the
24 effective date of this amendatory Act, and every award for
25 death benefits or permanent total disability entered by the
26 Commission on and after the effective date of this amendatory

1 Act shall be subject to annual adjustments as to the amount of
2 the compensation rate therein provided. Such adjustments shall
3 first be made on July 15, 1977, and all awards made and entered
4 prior to July 1, 1975 and on July 15 of each year thereafter.
5 In all other cases such adjustment shall be made on July 15 of
6 the second year next following the date of the entry of the
7 award and shall further be made on July 15 annually thereafter.
8 If during the intervening period from the date of the entry of
9 the award, or the last periodic adjustment, there shall have
10 been an increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
11 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act, the weekly
12 compensation rate shall be proportionately increased by the
13 same percentage as the percentage of increase in the State's
14 average weekly wage in covered industries under the
15 Unemployment Insurance Act. The increase in the compensation
16 rate under this paragraph shall in no event bring the total
17 compensation rate to an amount greater than the prevailing
18 maximum rate at the time that the annual adjustment is made.
19 Such increase shall be paid in the same manner as herein
20 provided for payments under the Second Injury Fund to the
21 injured employee, or his dependents, as the case may be, out of
22 the Rate Adjustment Fund provided in paragraph (f) of Section 7
23 of this Act. Payments shall be made at the same intervals as
24 provided in the award or, at the option of the Commission, may
25 be made in quarterly payment on the 15th day of January, April,
26 July and October of each year. In the event of a decrease in

1 such average weekly wage there shall be no change in the then
2 existing compensation rate. The within paragraph shall not
3 apply to cases where there is disputed liability and in which a
4 compromise lump sum settlement between the employer and the
5 injured employee, or his dependents, as the case may be, has
6 been duly approved by the Illinois Workers' Compensation
7 Commission.

8 Provided, that in cases of awards entered by the Commission
9 for injuries occurring before July 1, 1975, the increases in
10 the compensation rate adjusted under the foregoing provision of
11 this paragraph (g) shall be limited to increases in the State's
12 average weekly wage in covered industries under the
13 Unemployment Insurance Act occurring after July 1, 1975.

14 For every accident occurring on or after July 20, 2005 but
15 before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th
16 General Assembly (Senate Bill 1283 of the 94th General
17 Assembly), the annual adjustments to the compensation rate in
18 awards for death benefits or permanent total disability, as
19 provided in this Act, shall be paid by the employer. The
20 adjustment shall be made by the employer on July 15 of the
21 second year next following the date of the entry of the award
22 and shall further be made on July 15 annually thereafter. If
23 during the intervening period from the date of the entry of the
24 award, or the last periodic adjustment, there shall have been
25 an increase in the State's average weekly wage in covered
26 industries under the Unemployment Insurance Act, the employer

1 shall increase the weekly compensation rate proportionately by
2 the same percentage as the percentage of increase in the
3 State's average weekly wage in covered industries under the
4 Unemployment Insurance Act. The increase in the compensation
5 rate under this paragraph shall in no event bring the total
6 compensation rate to an amount greater than the prevailing
7 maximum rate at the time that the annual adjustment is made. In
8 the event of a decrease in such average weekly wage there shall
9 be no change in the then existing compensation rate. Such
10 increase shall be paid by the employer in the same manner and
11 at the same intervals as the payment of compensation in the
12 award. This paragraph shall not apply to cases where there is
13 disputed liability and in which a compromise lump sum
14 settlement between the employer and the injured employee, or
15 his or her dependents, as the case may be, has been duly
16 approved by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission.

17 The annual adjustments for every award of death benefits or
18 permanent total disability involving accidents occurring
19 before July 20, 2005 and accidents occurring on or after the
20 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General
21 Assembly (Senate Bill 1283 of the 94th General Assembly) shall
22 continue to be paid from the Rate Adjustment Fund pursuant to
23 this paragraph and Section 7(f) of this Act.

24 (h) In case death occurs from any cause before the total
25 compensation to which the employee would have been entitled has
26 been paid, then in case the employee leaves any widow, widower,

1 child, parent (or any grandchild, grandparent or other lineal
2 heir or any collateral heir dependent at the time of the
3 accident upon the earnings of the employee to the extent of 50%
4 or more of total dependency) such compensation shall be paid to
5 the beneficiaries of the deceased employee and distributed as
6 provided in paragraph (g) of Section 7.

7 (h-1) In case an injured employee is under legal disability
8 at the time when any right or privilege accrues to him or her
9 under this Act, a guardian may be appointed pursuant to law,
10 and may, on behalf of such person under legal disability, claim
11 and exercise any such right or privilege with the same effect
12 as if the employee himself or herself had claimed or exercised
13 the right or privilege. No limitations of time provided by this
14 Act run so long as the employee who is under legal disability
15 is without a conservator or guardian.

16 (i) In case the injured employee is under 16 years of age
17 at the time of the accident and is illegally employed, the
18 amount of compensation payable under paragraphs (b), (c), (d),
19 (e) and (f) of this Section is increased 50%.

20 However, where an employer has on file an employment
21 certificate issued pursuant to the Child Labor Law or work
22 permit issued pursuant to the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act,
23 as amended, or a birth certificate properly and duly issued,
24 such certificate, permit or birth certificate is conclusive
25 evidence as to the age of the injured minor employee for the
26 purposes of this Section.

1 Nothing herein contained repeals or amends the provisions
2 of the Child Labor Law relating to the employment of minors
3 under the age of 16 years.

4 (j) 1. In the event the injured employee receives benefits,
5 including medical, surgical or hospital benefits under any
6 group plan covering non-occupational disabilities contributed
7 to wholly or partially by the employer, which benefits should
8 not have been payable if any rights of recovery existed under
9 this Act, then such amounts so paid to the employee from any
10 such group plan as shall be consistent with, and limited to,
11 the provisions of paragraph 2 hereof, shall be credited to or
12 against any compensation payment for temporary total
13 incapacity for work or any medical, surgical or hospital
14 benefits made or to be made under this Act. In such event, the
15 period of time for giving notice of accidental injury and
16 filing application for adjustment of claim does not commence to
17 run until the termination of such payments. This paragraph does
18 not apply to payments made under any group plan which would
19 have been payable irrespective of an accidental injury under
20 this Act. Any employer receiving such credit shall keep such
21 employee safe and harmless from any and all claims or
22 liabilities that may be made against him by reason of having
23 received such payments only to the extent of such credit.

24 Any excess benefits paid to or on behalf of a State
25 employee by the State Employees' Retirement System under
26 Article 14 of the Illinois Pension Code on a death claim or

1 disputed disability claim shall be credited against any
2 payments made or to be made by the State of Illinois to or on
3 behalf of such employee under this Act, except for payments for
4 medical expenses which have already been incurred at the time
5 of the award. The State of Illinois shall directly reimburse
6 the State Employees' Retirement System to the extent of such
7 credit.

8 2. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to give
9 the employer or the insurance carrier the right to credit for
10 any benefits or payments received by the employee other than
11 compensation payments provided by this Act, and where the
12 employee receives payments other than compensation payments,
13 whether as full or partial salary, group insurance benefits,
14 bonuses, annuities or any other payments, the employer or
15 insurance carrier shall receive credit for each such payment
16 only to the extent of the compensation that would have been
17 payable during the period covered by such payment.

18 3. The extension of time for the filing of an Application
19 for Adjustment of Claim as provided in paragraph 1 above shall
20 not apply to those cases where the time for such filing had
21 expired prior to the date on which payments or benefits
22 enumerated herein have been initiated or resumed. Provided
23 however that this paragraph 3 shall apply only to cases wherein
24 the payments or benefits hereinabove enumerated shall be
25 received after July 1, 1969.

26 (Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11; 97-268, eff. 8-8-11; revised

1 9-15-11.)

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
3 becoming law.