99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB2418

by Rep. Dwight Kay

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

820 ILCS 305/1

from Ch. 48, par. 138.1

Amends the Workers' Compensation Act. Provides that an employee who is required to travel in connection with his or her employment and who suffers an injury while in travel status shall be eligible for benefits only if the injury arises out of and in the course of employment while he or she is actively engaged in the duties of employment. Defines "accident" and "injury". Provides that "injury" includes the aggravation of a pre-existing condition by an accident arising out of and in the course of the employment, but only for so long as the aggravation of the pre-existing condition continues to be the major contributing cause of the disability. Provides that an injury resulting directly or indirectly from idiopathic causes is not compensable. Effective immediately.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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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 1 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 305/1) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.1)

7 Sec. 1. This Act may be cited as the Workers' Compensation8 Act.

9 (a) The term "employer" as used in this Act means:

The State and each county, city, town, township,
 incorporated village, school district, body politic, or
 municipal corporation therein.

2. Every person, firm, public or private corporation, 13 14 including hospitals, public service, eleemosynary, religious or charitable corporations or associations who has any person 15 16 in service or under any contract for hire, express or implied, 17 oral or written, and who is engaged in any of the enterprises or businesses enumerated in Section 3 of this Act, or who at or 18 19 prior to the time of the accident to the employee for which 20 compensation under this Act may be claimed, has in the manner provided in this Act elected to become subject to the 21 22 provisions of this Act, and who has not, prior to such accident, effected a withdrawal of such election in the manner 23

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1 provided in this Act.

2 3. Any one engaging in any business or enterprise referred to in subsections 1 and 2 of Section 3 of this Act who 3 undertakes to do any work enumerated therein, is liable to pay 4 5 compensation to his own immediate employees in accordance with 6 the provisions of this Act, and in addition thereto if he indirectly engages any contractor 7 directly or whether 8 principal or sub-contractor to do any such work, he is liable 9 to pay compensation to the employees of any such contractor or sub-contractor unless such contractor or sub-contractor has 10 11 insured, in any company or association authorized under the 12 laws of this State to insure the liability to pay compensation 13 under this Act, or guaranteed his liability to pay such 14 compensation. With respect to any time limitation on the filing of claims provided by this Act, the timely filing of a claim 15 16 against a contractor or subcontractor, as the case may be, 17 shall be deemed to be a timely filing with respect to all persons upon whom liability is imposed by this paragraph. 18

19 In the event any such person pays compensation under this 20 subsection he may recover the amount thereof from the 21 contractor or sub-contractor, if any, and in the event the 22 contractor pays compensation under this subsection he may 23 recover the amount thereof from the sub-contractor, if any.

This subsection does not apply in any case where the accident occurs elsewhere than on, in or about the immediate premises on which the principal has contracted that the work be

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1 done.

2 4. Where an employer operating under and subject to the provisions of this Act loans an employee to another such 3 employer and such loaned employee sustains a compensable 4 5 accidental injury in the employment of such borrowing employer 6 and where such borrowing employer does not provide or pay the 7 benefits or payments due such injured employee, such loaning 8 employer is liable to provide or pay all benefits or payments 9 due such employee under this Act and as to such employee the 10 liability of such loaning and borrowing employers is joint and 11 several, provided that such loaning employer is in the absence 12 of agreement to the contrary entitled to receive from such 13 borrowing employer full reimbursement for all sums paid or 14 incurred pursuant to this paragraph together with reasonable 15 attorneys' fees and expenses in any hearings before the 16 Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission or in any action to 17 secure such reimbursement. Where any benefit is provided or paid by such loaning employer the employee has the duty of 18 rendering reasonable cooperation in any hearings, trials or 19 20 proceedings in the case, including such proceedings for reimbursement. 21

Where an employee files an Application for Adjustment of Claim with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission alleging that his claim is covered by the provisions of the preceding paragraph, and joining both the alleged loaning and borrowing employers, they and each of them, upon written demand

by the employee and within 7 days after receipt of such demand, 1 2 shall have the duty of filing with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission a written admission or denial of the 3 allegation that the claim is covered by the provisions of the 4 5 preceding paragraph and in default of such filing or if any 6 such denial be ultimately determined not to have been bona fide 7 then the provisions of Paragraph K of Section 19 of this Act 8 shall apply.

9 An employer whose business or enterprise or a substantial 10 part thereof consists of hiring, procuring or furnishing 11 employees to or for other employers operating under and subject 12 to the provisions of this Act for the performance of the work of such other employers and who pays such employees their 13 salary or wages notwithstanding that they are doing the work of 14 15 such other employers shall be deemed a loaning employer within 16 the meaning and provisions of this Section.

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(b) The term "employee" as used in this Act means:

1. Every person in the service of the State, including 18 19 members of the General Assembly, members of the Commerce 20 Commission, members of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, and all persons in the service of the University of 21 22 Illinois, county, including deputy sheriffs and assistant 23 state's attorneys, city, town, township, incorporated village or school district, body politic, or municipal corporation 24 25 therein, whether by election, under appointment or contract of hire, express or implied, oral or written, including all 26

members of the Illinois National Guard while on active duty in 1 2 the service of the State, and all probation personnel of the 3 Juvenile Court appointed pursuant to Article VI of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, and including any official of the State, any 4 5 county, city, town, township, incorporated village, school district, body politic or municipal corporation therein except 6 any duly appointed member of a police department in any city 7 whose population exceeds 500,000 according to the last Federal 8 9 or State census, and except any member of a fire insurance 10 patrol maintained by a board of underwriters in this State. A 11 duly appointed member of a fire department in any city, the 12 population of which exceeds 500,000 according to the last 13 federal or State census, is an employee under this Act only with respect to claims brought under paragraph (c) of Section 14 8. 15

One employed by a contractor who has contracted with the State, or a county, city, town, township, incorporated village, school district, body politic or municipal corporation therein, through its representatives, is not considered as an employee of the State, county, city, town, township, incorporated village, school district, body politic or municipal corporation which made the contract.

23 2. Every person in the service of another under any 24 contract of hire, express or implied, oral or written, 25 including persons whose employment is outside of the State of 26 Illinois where the contract of hire is made within the State of

Illinois, persons whose employment results in fatal 1 or 2 non-fatal injuries within the State of Illinois where the contract of hire is made outside of the State of Illinois, and 3 persons whose employment is principally localized within the 4 5 State of Illinois, regardless of the place of the accident or 6 the place where the contract of hire was made, and including 7 aliens, and minors who, for the purpose of this Act are 8 considered the same and have the same power to contract, 9 receive payments and give quittances therefor, as adult employees. 10

3. Every sole proprietor and every partner of a business
 may elect to be covered by this Act.

An employee or his dependents under this Act who shall have a cause of action by reason of any injury, disablement or death arising out of and in the course of his employment may elect to pursue his remedy in the State where injured or disabled, or in the State where the contract of hire is made, or in the State where the employment is principally localized.

19 However, any employer may elect to provide and pay 20 compensation to any employee other than those engaged in the usual course of the trade, business, profession or occupation 21 22 of the employer by complying with Sections 2 and 4 of this Act. 23 Employees are not included within the provisions of this Act when excluded by the laws of the United States relating to 24 25 liability of employers to their employees for personal injuries 26 where such laws are held to be exclusive.

1 The term "employee" does not include persons performing 2 services as real estate broker, broker-salesman, or salesman 3 when such persons are paid by commission only.

4 (c) "Commission" means the Industrial Commission created
5 by Section 5 of "The Civil Administrative Code of Illinois",
6 approved March 7, 1917, as amended, or the Illinois Workers'
7 Compensation Commission created by Section 13 of this Act.

8 (d) To obtain compensation under this Act, an employee 9 bears the burden of showing, by a preponderance of the 10 evidence, that he or she has sustained accidental injuries 11 arising out of and in the course of the employment. An employee 12 who is required to travel in connection with his or her 13 employment and who suffers an injury while in travel status 14 shall be eligible for benefits only if the injury arises out of and in the course of employment while he or she is actively 15 16 engaged in the duties of employment. This subsection (d) 17 applies to travel necessarily incident to the performance of the employee's job responsibility if: (i) the employer 18 19 furnishes the transportation or the employee receives 20 reimbursement from the employer for costs of travel, gas, oil, or lodging as a part of the employee's benefits or employment 21 22 agreement and the travel is necessitated by and on behalf of 23 the employer as an integral part or condition of the 24 employment; or (ii) the travel is required by the employer as 25 part of the employee's job duties. Arising out of and in the course of the employment does not include travel to and from 26

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1 work. Arising out of and in the course of employment does not 2 include when an employee is on a paid or unpaid break and is 3 not performing any specific tasks for the employer during the 4 break.

5 <u>(e) The term "accident" as used in this Act means an</u> 6 <u>occurrence arising out of the employment, resulting from a risk</u> 7 <u>incidental to the employment, and in the course of the</u> 8 <u>employment at a time and place and under circumstances</u> 9 <u>reasonably required by the employment.</u>

10 (f) The term "injury" as used in this Act means a medical 11 condition or impairment that arises out of and in the course of 12 employment. An injury, its occupational cause, and any resulting manifestations or disability <u>must be established to a</u> 13 14 reasonable degree of medical certainty, based on objective relevant medical findings, and the accidental compensable 15 16 injury must be the major contributing cause of any resulting 17 injuries. For the purposes of this Section, "major contributing cause" means the cause which is more than 50% responsible for 18 19 the injury as compared to all other causes combined for which 20 treatment or benefits are sought. "Injury" includes the 21 aggravation of a pre-existing condition by an accident arising 22 out of and in the course of the employment, but only for so 23 long as the aggravation of the pre-existing condition continues 24 to be the major contributing cause of the disability.

25 <u>An injury is deemed to arise out of and in the course of</u> 26 <u>the employment only if:</u>

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1	(1) it is reasonably apparent, upon consideration of
2	all circumstances, that the accident is the major
3	contributing cause of the injury; and
4	(2) it does not come from a hazard or risk unrelated to
5	the employment to which employees would have been equally
6	exposed outside of the employment.
7	An injury resulting directly or indirectly from idiopathic
8	causes is not compensable.
9	(Source: P.A. 97-18, eff. 6-28-11; 97-268, eff. 8-8-11; 97-813,
10	eff. 7-13-12.)
11	Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

12 becoming law.