



IOWA HOUSE DEMOCRATS

BILL & AMENDMENT SUMMARY

Workers' Compensation HF 593/SF 507

Status of Bill: House Floor

Committee: Commerce Committee (15-8); Senate (32-17)

Research Analyst: Alison Ver Schuer; (515) 281-5939; Alison.Ver.Schuer@legis.iowa.gov

Lead Democrat: Rep. Meyer

Floor Manager: Rep. Deyoe

Background

Based on *Bluml v Dee Jay's Inc.* court decision, HF 593 would amend current Code to prohibit personal injuries due to idiopathic or unexplained falls onto a level surface from the definition under workers' compensation (Ch. 85).

SF 507 (Senate companion) passed the Senate 32-17.

Amendment Summary

H-1152 to SF 507(Hunter): This amendment would allow employees to select a doctor of their choice relating to personal injuries sustained in their course of employment when filing a claim for workers' compensation.

H-1154 to SF 507 (Hunter): This amendment strikes the bill and replaces with language that would create an equal pay task force while prohibiting wage discrimination.

H-1155 to SF 507 (Hunter): This amendment creates a penalty for employers who intentionally misclassified employee's wages and willingly failed to pay any contribution from state employment compensation, the additional contribution penalty shall equal 100% of the amount the employer failed to pay.

H-1156 to SF 507 (Hunter): This amendment would require an employer to treat an employee who adopts a child in the same manner as an employee who is the biological parent of a newborn in regards to employment policies, benefits, and protections for the first year of the adoption.

H-1157 to SF 507 (Meyer): This amendment strikes the bill and would create a state paid family leave insurance program that provides for paid, job-protected leave relating to certain medical leave reasons for eligible employees of specified employers. This language is from SF 195 (Boulton, Taylor, Quirnbach, Bolkom, Petersen, Jochum, Smith, Wahls, Dotzler, and T. Taylor), which was referred to the Senate Labor Committee but never received a subcommittee meeting.

H-1153 to SF 507 (Wolfe): This amendment would allow idiopathic injuries from unexplained falls to be disqualified from unemployment benefits unless there is a specific workplace factor that increases the extent of the employee's injury, contributes to injury's cause, or increases the likelihood of the employee's personal injury.

Ver Schuer, Alison [LEGIS]G:\Caucus Staff\AVS\Commerce\2019 Session\HF 593 - Workers' Compensation Amendment Summary.docx|April 9, 2019|9:49 AM