

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ACT PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION SCHEME

	CURRENT	PROPOSED	COMMUNITY IMPACT
<b>Statutory lump sums</b>	<p>Statutory compensation for prescribed losses</p> <p>Focus on loss</p> <p>Maximum available \$126,000 (single loss)</p>	<p>Statutory compensation for permanent injuries (not just permanent loss) using Whole Person Impairment (WPI) tool</p> <p>Greater range of injuries compensable</p> <p>Focus on impairment</p> <p>Maximum available \$220,000</p>	<p>More workers able to access statutory lump sum compensation</p>
<b>Statutory lump sum access and threshold</b>	<p>6% hearing loss</p> <p>Permanent loss prescribed by Schedule 1 compensable (2% of the single loss amount is the minimum loss applicable per the Schedule)</p> <p>Psychological injury is not compensable</p>	<p>6% hearing loss</p> <p>Permanent impairments 1% or more are compensable</p> <p>20% permanent impairment for psychological injury</p>	<p>More workers able to access statutory lump sum compensation</p> <p>Greater range of injuries compensable</p>
<b>Common Law access</b>	<p>No threshold</p>	<p>15% or more WPI</p> <p>20% or more WPI (psychological injury)</p>	<p>Above threshold - Common law damages</p> <p>Below threshold - increased statutory benefits</p>
<b>Definition of psychological injury</b>	<p>Definition excludes an injury that is completely or mostly caused by the reasonable action or proposed action</p>	<p>Definition excludes an injury that is completely or mostly caused by the reasonable action or proposed action by</p>	<p>Negligible impact for workers</p>

	<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>	<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>
	by or on behalf of an employer in relation to set matters.	or on behalf of an employer in relation to set matters. Modified to bring it into line with other jurisdictions.	
<b>Specialist medical reports</b>	Multiple medical assessments for injured workers	Permanent Impairment Assessment Panel comprising independent medical specialists. Appointment to panel based on training in the use of the permanent impairment guidelines. Single assessment that is peer reviewed.  Neutral panel manager assigns individual cases to assessor.	Fewer medical assessments for workers Increased consistency in assessments creating a fairer scheme for workers
<b>Conciliation</b>	Required prior to arbitration and common law hearing	Compulsory pre-hearing conferences Compulsory settlement offers	Streamlined dispute resolution Enhanced opportunity for early resolution of claims
<b>Death and Funeral benefits</b>	Death benefit \$189,000 (Apr 10) Funeral Benefit \$5,000 (Apr 10)	Death benefit \$450,000 indexed Funeral Benefit \$9,000	Increased statutory compensation for workers fatally Increased assistance to bereaved families