House Co-Sponsorship Memoranda

MEMORANDUM

Posted: February 4, 2015 02:21 PM
From: Representative David Hickernell
To: All House members
Subject: Amendment to Workers' Compensation Act

In previous sessions, I introduced legislation that was part of a package of bills referred to as the **Keystone Manufacturing Initiative (KMI).** The KMI package was intended to improve the competitiveness of the manufacturing industry and the overall business climate in Pennsylvania.

My legislation, which I will be re-introducing in the near future, **would amend Section 306(f.1)(1)(i) of the Workers' Compensation Act to increase the medical captive period from 90 days to 180 days**. This section of the law currently requires an injured worker to treat with an employer's panel of medical providers for at least 90 days; after this period, a claimant may choose to treat with their physician of choice. This legislation is intended to keep medical costs down by providing employers with a longer period of control of medical treatment and thereby hold down workers' compensation insurance rates.

Previous Cosponsors: HICKERNELL , BAKER , CAUSER , CUTLER , GINGRICH , GRELL , GROVE, HARRIS , METCALFE , MOUL , MUSTIO , O'NEILL , PICKETT , TURZAI , YOUNGBLOOD , KAUFFMAN , RAPP , MAJOR , MURT, MILNE and MULLERY