

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
03/23/2009

Amendment to: Engrossed
 HB 1561

1A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2007-2009 Biennium		2009-2011 Biennium		2011-2013 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2007-2009 Biennium			2009-2011 Biennium			2011-2013 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

The legislation requires the organization to establish a treating doctor’s opinion is not well-supported; excludes the organization’s manage care programs from the proposal; and allows the organization to determine whether a doctor is an injured employee’s treating doctor.

B. Fiscal impact sections: *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

WORKFORCE SAFETY & INSURANCE
2009 LEGISLATION
SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL INFORMATION

BILL NO: Engrossed HB 1561 with Senate Amendments

BILL DESCRIPTION: Treating Doctor’s Opinion

SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL INFORMATION: Workforce Safety & Insurance, together with its actuary, Glenn Evans of Pacific Actuarial Consultants, has reviewed the legislation proposed in this bill in conformance with Section 54-03-25 of the North Dakota Century Code.

The legislation requires the organization to “establish that the treating doctor’s opinion is not well-supported by medically acceptable clinical and laboratory diagnostic techniques or is inconsistent with the other substantial evidence in the injured employee’s record” if the organization does not give an injured employee’s treating doctor’s opinion controlling weight. The legislation specifies the proposed change would not apply to the organization’s manage care programs and provides that the organization shall determine whether a doctor is an injured employee’s treating doctor.

Actuarial Impact:

Based on our understanding of the amended legislation, we don’t anticipate a change to WSI’s existing claim’s handling practices. To the extent our understanding is correct; we don’t anticipate an impact to statewide premium and reserve levels.

DATE: March 23, 2009

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*
- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*
- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*
- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

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