FISCAL NOTE

Requested by Legislative Council 03/11/2011

Amendment to: SB 2114

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.

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	2009-2011 Biennium		2011-2013	Biennium	2013-2015 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.

2009-2011 Biennium		2011-2013 Biennium			2013-2015 Biennium			
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts
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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 proposal provides for background checks; clarifies when weight loss and smoking cessation aids can be paid; expands eligibility for the scholarship and revolving loan programs; increases scholarship awards; and provides clarification in other areas.

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 2011 LEGISLATION SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL INFORMATION

BILL NO: SB 2114 w/ House Amendments

BILL DESCRIPTION: Workforce Safety & Insurance (WSI) Bill

SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL INFORMATION: Workforce Safety & Insurance, together with its actuarial firm, Bickerstaff, Whatley, Ryan & Burkhalter Consulting Actuaries, has reviewed the legislation proposed in this bill in conformance with Section 54-03-25 of the North Dakota Century Code.

The proposed legislation provides for background checks for certain, potential WSI employees and contractors who may have access to confidential information; allows for an administrative order to be issued without first issuing an informal decision; clarifies when weight loss and smoking cessation aids or programs can be paid; expands eligibility for the scholarship program to include spouses and children of the catastrophically injured and to include those who have successfully completed a retraining program; increases the annual cap that the organization can award in scholarships from \$300,000 to \$500,000; increases the maximum scholarship amount payable per applicant per year from \$4,000 per year to \$10,000 per year; streamlines the personal reimbursement process for injured workers; provides consistency in statutory language regarding work trial and work search; corrects a minor oversight in the mileage reimbursement chart within the rehabilitation allowance statute; and expands eligibility for the educational revolving loan fund to include spouses and children of the catastrophically injured and to include spouses and children of those deemed permanently and totally disabled.

FISCAL IMPACT: It is anticipated that the enhancements to the scholarship program will serve to increase costs for

this program by approximately \$75,000 to \$150,000 per year. However, we don't anticipate these increases or the other provisions of this legislative proposal to have a significant impact to statewide premium or reserve levels.

DATE: March 11, 2011

- 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.

Name:	John Halvorson	Agency:	WSI
Phone Number:	328-6016	Date Prepared:	03/11/2011