



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 51

Chairperson: Steve Lathrop
Committee: Business and Labor
Date of Hearing: February 9, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 51 is designed to provide confidentiality to Workers' Compensation Court documents and information available by electronic means and to provide that such documents and information, subject to specific exceptions, are not open to public inspection or copying. The documents and information which are to be held confidential are those which reveal (a) the identity of an employee; (b) the nature of an employee's alleged injury; (c) an employee's past or present medical condition; (d) the extent of an employee's disability; (e) the amount, type, or duration of benefits paid to an employee; or (f) the application information for self-insurance.

The bill further provides that the Workers' Compensation Court is to deny any request to inspect or copy a record deemed to be confidential unless: a) the requestor is the employee who is the subject of the record or an attorney or authorized agent of the employee; b) the requestor is the employer of the injured employee, or the employer's insurance carrier or third-party administrator; c) the information is used for the purpose of state or federal investigations or examinations or for the state or federal government to compile statistical information; d) the document is a pleading filed in a Workers' Compensation Court docketed file or an exhibit offered and received into evidence by the Workers' Compensation Court or a final order, award or judgment of the Compensation Court; or e) the information identifies statistical information as to the nature and number of injuries occurring regarding an employer and does not reveal the identity, medical condition, or disability of an employee.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Tony Fulton