

Labor Management Advisory Council Legislative Call  
February 1, 2019

In Person:

Lt. Governor Mike Cooney  
Don Judge  
Al Smith  
Bridger Mahlum  
Eric Strauss  
Jason Swant  
Pat Fox

Attending via Skype:

Vicki Evans	Nikki Hartman
Doug Buman	Carissa Stahly
Mike Marsh	Lacy Silvan
Lance Zanto	Bill Dahlgren
Kevin Braun	Karen Wiles
Jim Larson	Mike Bartow
Mona Hylton	

Call began at 1:00 p.m.

There will be action items since we do have a quorum. All minutes from past couple meetings have been posted.

Don Judge moved to approve 01/18/19 minutes. Minutes approved

Don Judge moved to approve 01/25/19 minutes. Minutes approved.

Discussion involved polling council members on bills, looking to quickly determine if consensus is possible. Opportunities for public comment and notice if there needs to be a deadline for public comment. What is included on the department's website to be seen before making a poll decision.

Eric Strauss: LMAC bills approved going into session. Senator McConnell will carry CEC certification. Doesn't have a placeholder

Senator Ankney will carry extra territorial. He also does not have a placeholder

Can't find sponsor for MT OSHA. Approached Senators Wellborn and Vance with no response to date.

Don updated regarding Montana Contractors and the MT OSHA.

HB 214: Monitor - Allows the department of administration to elect coverage under Plan number 1 or 2. Rep Ricci. Governor came out against.

SB 29: Support - Require workers' compensation for all volunteer firefighters. Transmitted to House. Through Senate with strong support. Motion for LMAC to support passed with no public comment.

HB 28: Establish fireworks tax to assist with workers' s compensation for volunteer firefighters. Heard and tabled in taxation. Remove from list.

HB 86: Generally, revise prescription drug laws. Adjusted from 5-day first to 7-day so now conforms with formulary. Remove from list.

SB 126: Oppose - Revise workers' compensation solvency guidelines for self-insured public entities. Up for 3<sup>rd</sup> reading February 1, 2019. Department strongly opposes as it reduces department's standards to ensure solvency. Motion for LMAC to oppose passed with no public comment.

SB 160: Monitor - Provide workers' compensation for presumptive diseases of firefighters. Hearing held in Senate Business and Labor. Continue to monitor.

SB 77: Monitor - Department of Labor cleanup bill, eliminates the industrial accident rehabilitation account. Dept wants to sunset fund and move monies to UEF. Transmitted to the House. Continue to monitor.

SB 78: Notification of claims closure. Has changed since last discussion. Suggestion to read the bill again for the changes to see if LMAC would make a stand. Continue to monitor. The amended version will be emailed again to LMAC

LC 525: Oppose - Montana workers' compensation modernization act. Administration opposes. Bridger Mahlum made a motion to oppose. Motion passed with no public comment.

HB 230 not specific to work comp but can affect work comp. No need to monitor. Removed from list.

HB 313: Monitor - Allow worker to choose treating physician. Continue to monitor

SB 61: Monitor - Revise prescription drug registry. Continue Monitor

LC 281 Monitor - Sen. Mike Phillips. Prescriber counseling for opioids. Put on monitor list for now

LC 1820: Monitor – Allow for rescission of insurance contracts under certain circumstances. Continue to monitor to see if it will impact work comp.

LC3114; Monitor - Speaker Hurst. Management fee on investment portfolios. Keep on monitor list just to see what happens.

Lt. Governor: Brought up the item of the issue with state contracting to promote safety working with Transportation and Administration. They have written guidelines and have been circulated. Lt. Governor is working with Mike Manion and then will bring to the Governor.

**Public comment:**

Discussed attendance at hearings and testimonies.

Vicki Evans attended department formulary outreach 02/01/19 and they did a good job.

Kevin Braun: NCCI has put forth loss cost. Good news for consumers. -17.2 loss cost which is huge

Meeting adjourned.