

Introduced by

Representatives Amerman, Boucher, Thorpe

Senators Heitkamp, O'Connell, Potter

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 65-05-09.4 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to workers' compensation additional benefit payable rates; and to provide for
3 application.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 65-05-09.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **65-05-09.4. Additional benefit payable.** If an injured employee's benefits cease
8 under subsection 2 of section 65-05-09.3, the organization shall pay to that employee every
9 twenty-eight days a benefit based on the length of time the injured employee received disability
10 benefits during the term of that claim. The organization shall pay the injured employee's
11 additional benefits until the employee's death or for a period of time not to exceed the total
12 length of time the employee received disability benefits under sections 65-05-08, 65-05-08.1,
13 65-05-09, and 65-05-10, and a vocational rehabilitation allowance under chapter 65-05.1, for
14 that claim, whichever occurs first. The benefit is based on the injured employee's
15 compensation rate before any applicable social security offset. The percentage of that final
16 payment payable as the additional benefit is:

17	At least 1 year and less than 3 years of disability	5 percent of weekly benefit.
18	At least 3 years and less than 5 years of disability	10 percent of weekly benefit.
19	At least 5 years and less than 7 years of disability	15 percent of weekly benefit.
20	At least 7 years and less than 9 years of disability	20 percent of weekly benefit.
21	At least 9 years and less than 11 years of disability	25 percent of weekly benefit.
22	At least 11 years and less than 13 years of disability	30 percent of weekly benefit.
23	At least 13 years and less than 15 years of disability	35 percent of weekly benefit.
24	At least 15 years and less than 17 years of disability	40 percent of weekly benefit.

1 ~~At least 17 years and less than 20 years of disability 45 percent of weekly benefit.~~
2 ~~Twenty or more years of disability 50 percent of weekly benefit.~~
3 thirty percent of the employee's compensation rate if the total length of disability is at least one
4 year and less than ten years and is sixty percent of the employee's compensation rate if the
5 total length of disability is at least ten years. However, the organization shall pay to an injured
6 employee who has been determined to be catastrophically injured as defined by subdivision c
7 of subsection 2 of section 65-05.1-06.1 an additional benefit, until the death of the employee,
8 equal to one hundred percent of the final payment of the disability benefit that was discontinued
9 under subsection 2 or 3 of section 65-05-09.3.
10 **SECTION 2. APPLICATION.** This Act applies to all workforce safety and insurance
11 claimants who are eligible for additional benefits payable after December 31, 2006.