October 2008

SUMMARY OF INJURED EMPLOYEE CONTACTS - INDUSTRY, BUSINESS, AND LABOR COMMITTEE

As part of the comprehensive review of Workforce Safety and Insurance during the 2007-08 interim by the Industry, Business, and Labor Committee, the chairman of the committee invited individuals who had concerns regarding the handling of claims by Workforce Safety and Insurance to contact the Legislative Council office to share those concerns.

The Legislative Council staff logged contacts from 57 individuals. In visiting with those individuals, the Legislative Council staff attempted to gain an understanding of the concerns and offered to provide the individuals information regarding the deliberations of the Industry, Business, and Labor Committee. Each individual who visited with the Legislative Council staff and who provided a name and contact information was offered the opportunity to sign a release of information so that the Industry, Business, and Labor Committee could review that individual's workers' compensation claim and discuss the claim with representatives of Workforce Safety and Insurance. The Legislative Council staff also provided each individual with information regarding the continuing jurisdiction review process undertaken by Workforce Safety and Insurance and an application form for that review process. In addition the Legislative Council staff provided each individual with information regarding the Legislative Council's Workers' Compensation Review Committee if it appeared the individual may be eligible for review of that individual's claim by that committee.

Seventeen individuals signed releases and submitted the releases to the Legislative Council office. At the request of the committee chairman, the Legislative Council staff requested each member of the Industry, Business, and Labor Committee to contact one individual who signed a release so that the committee member could hear the concerns of the injured worker. Committee members also were given the opportunity to visit with a representative of Workforce Safety and Insurance to attempt to better understand the decision of Workforce Safety and Insurance. Upon completion of their visits with the individuals who signed releases, committee members were asked to report to the committee regarding the concerns of the injured workers.

Attached is a list of the names of the individuals who contacted the Legislative Council office. Included in the attachment is a notation regarding whether the individual signed and returned a release of information.

ATTACH:1