FISCAL NOTE

NORTH DAKOTA WORKERS COMPENSATION BUREAU 1997 LEGISLATION SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL INFORMATION

BILL DESCRIPTION: Disability (Wage-Loss), Inmates exclusion, Partial benefits.

BILL NO: HB 1264

SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL INFORMATION: The Workers Compensation Bureau, together with its Actuary, Glenn Evans of Pacific Actuarial Consultants, have reviewed the legislation proposed in this bill in conformance with Section 54-03-25 of the North Dakota Century Code.

Provides language consistency among the disability statutes. Will not allow for the payment of disability benefits to inmates confined to penal institutions in excess of seventy two hours. Allows for payment of pre-acceptance isability benefits to speed payment to injured workers. Requires an injured worker to report work and other activities, whether for pay or not. Allows payment of temporary partial disability beyond the present five-year limitation for injured workers able to work only part-time.

FISCAL IMPACT: Not quantifiable. Pre-acceptance benefits will serve to increase benefits for some injured workers and serve to reduce costs associated with delays for others (i.e. attorney fees). Extends benefits for injured workers receiving TPD with long term restrictions by waving the five year cap at the Bureau's discretion.