

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

SENATE BILL NO. 2056
(Legislative Council)
(Workers' Compensation Review Committee)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 65-05-28 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to workers' compensation mileage reimbursement for injured employees' medical travel; and to provide for application.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 65-05-28 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. Travel and other personal reimbursement for seeking and obtaining medical care is paid only upon request of the injured employee. All claims for reimbursement must be supported by the original vendor receipt and must be submitted within one year of the date the expense was incurred or reimbursement must be denied. Reimbursement must be made at the organization reimbursement rates in effect on the date of incurred travel or expense. ~~Mileage calculations must be based upon the atlas or map mileage from city limit to city limit and do not include intracity mileage.~~ The calculation for reimbursement for travel by motor vehicle must be calculated using miles actually and necessarily traveled. Providing further that:

- a. ~~No payment~~ Payment for mileage or other travel expenses may not be made when the distance traveled is less than fifty miles [80.47 kilometers] one way, unless the total mileage equals or exceeds two hundred miles [321.87 kilometers] in a calendar month;
- b. All travel reimbursements are payable at the rates at which state employees are paid per diem and mileage, except that the organization may pay no more than actual cost of meals and lodging, if actual cost is less;
- c. Reimbursement may not be paid for travel other than that necessary to obtain the closest available medical or hospital care needed for the injury. If the injured employee chooses to seek medical treatment outside a local area where care is available, travel reimbursement may be denied;
- d. Reimbursement may not be paid for the travel and associated expenses incurred by the injured employee's spouse, children, or other persons unless the employee's injury prevents travel alone and the inability is medically substantiated; and
- e. Other expenses, including telephone calls and car rentals are not reimbursable expenses.

SECTION 2. APPLICATION. This Act applies to travel that takes place on or after the effective date of this Act.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2056.

Senate Vote: Yeas 45 Nays 0 Absent 2

House Vote: Yeas 92 Nays 0 Absent 2

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2009.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2009.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2009,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State