

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

SENATE BILL NO. 2057
(Legislative Council)
(Workers' Compensation Review Committee)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 11 of section 65-05-12.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to workers' compensation permanent partial impairment awards for loss of vision; to provide for application; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 11 of section 65-05-12.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

11. An amputation of a finger or toe at the level of the distal interphalangeal joint or proximal to that joint, or the thumb or the great toe at the interphalangeal joint or proximal to that joint, which is determined to result in a whole body impairment of less than sixteen percent and which is not identified in the following schedule, is payable as a sixteen percent impairment. If an evaluation for the loss of an eye or for an amputation results in an award that is less than the permanent impairment multiplier identified in the following schedule, the organization shall pay an award equal to the permanent impairment multiplier set out in the following schedule:

For amputation of a thumb	permanent impairment multiplier of 65
For amputation of the second or distal phalanx of the thumb	permanent impairment multiplier of 28
For amputation of the first finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 40
For amputation of the middle or second phalanx of the first finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 28
For amputation of the third or distal phalanx of the first finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 22
For amputation of the second finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 30
For amputation of the middle or second phalanx of the second finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 22
For amputation of the third or distal phalanx of the second finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 14
For amputation of the third finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 20
For amputation of the middle or second phalanx of the third finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 16
For amputation of the fourth finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 16
For amputation of the middle or second phalanx of the fourth finger	permanent impairment multiplier of 12
For amputation of the leg at the hip	permanent impairment multiplier of 234
For amputation of the leg at or above the knee	permanent impairment multiplier of 195
For amputation of the leg at or above the ankle	permanent impairment multiplier of 150

For amputation of a great toe	permanent impairment multiplier of 30
For amputation of the second or distal phalanx of the great toe	permanent impairment multiplier of 18
For amputation of any other toe	permanent impairment multiplier of 12
For loss of an eye	permanent impairment multiplier of 150
<u>For the loss of vision of an eye which equals or exceeds 20/200 corrected</u>	<u>permanent impairment multiplier of 100</u>

The award for the amputation of more than one finger of one hand may not exceed an award for the amputation of a hand. The award for the amputation of more than one toe of one foot may not exceed an award for the amputation of a foot. If any of the amputations or losses set out in this subsection combine with other impairments for the same work-related injury or condition, the organization shall issue an impairment award based on the greater of the permanent impairment multiplier allowed for the combined rating established under the fifth edition of the American medical association's "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment" or the permanent impairment multiplier set forth in this subsection.

SECTION 2. APPLICATION. This Act applies to injuries that occur on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

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. 2057 and that two-thirds of the members-elect of the Senate voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 45 Nays 0 Absent 2

President of the Senate

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that two-thirds of the members-elect of the House of Representatives voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 92 Nays 0 Absent 2

Speaker of the House

Chief Clerk of the House

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