



HB 303 Summary of Key Provisions

- Increases the maximum cost for a reemployment plan from \$13,300 to \$19,300 and provides an annual adjustment based on the consumer price index.
- Increases the lump sum job dislocation benefit amount to \$6,500 for a PPI rating greater than zero but less than 15 percent; \$10,500 for a PPI rating of 15 percent or greater but less than 30 percent; or \$17,500 for a PPI rating of 30 percent or greater.
- Allows an injured worker more time to choose the job dislocation benefit over continuing to participate in the reemployment process.
- No longer permits an injured worker to settle reemployment benefits with their employer. In FY17:
 - **148** injured workers were determined eligible for reemployment benefits.
 - **164** injured workers settled reemployment benefits.¹
 - Only **14** injured workers completed reemployment plans.
- Limits payment of stipend benefits to not more than one year before a plan is approved.²
- Allows the reemployment benefits administrator (RBA) to offer consultation services for employers on early return-to-work policies and programs.
- Allows establishment of a rehabilitation specialist services fee schedule.
- Makes eligibility evaluations voluntary instead of mandatory and establishes a deadline for an injured worker to request reemployment benefits.
- Allows an injured worker in some circumstances to select a desired occupational goal that might result in wages lower than what the law usually allows.
- Requires the injured worker and employer to either approve and sign a reemployment plan, or deny the plan by providing a specific reason for the denial.
- Allows parties to request modification based on a change in conditions or a factual mistake.
- Allows parties to request reconsideration of certain RBA decisions.

¹ More injured workers settle reemployment benefits than are found eligible because many settle before being found eligible or after being found ineligible.

² An injured worker is entitled to up to an additional two years of benefits after a plan is approved, for a total maximum of three years.