

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 285

4
5 By: Senator J. Payton
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO MODIFY THE COMPENSATION RESTRICTIONS UNDER
10 THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW THAT RESULTED FROM
11 INITIATED ACT 4 OF 1948; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
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Subtitle

14
15 TO MODIFY THE COMPENSATION RESTRICTIONS
16 UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW THAT
17 RESULTED FROM INITIATED ACT 4 OF 1948.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 11-9-501(b), concerning the limits of
22 compensation payable to an injured employee for disability other than
23 permanent partial disability under the Workers' Compensation Law, is amended
24 to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

25 (6)(A) For a disability or death which results from an injury
26 occurring on and after the effective date of this act, the maximum weekly
27 benefit payable shall be seventy percent (70%) of the average weekly wage of
28 the injured employee.

29 (B) The maximum annual salary total of weekly benefit
30 payments to an injured employee under subdivision (b)(6)(A) of this section
31 is one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000).
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33 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 11-9-501(d), concerning the limits of
34 compensation payable to an employee for permanent partial disability under
35 the Workers' Compensation Law, is amended to read as follows:

36 (d)(1)(A) The permanent partial disability rate for compensation



1 payable to an employee for permanent partial disability which results from an
2 injury occurring on or after July 1, 1986, shall not exceed sixty-six and
3 two-thirds percent (66 $\frac{2}{3}$ %) of the employee's average weekly wage, with a
4 twenty-dollar-per-week minimum, subject to a maximum of one hundred fifty-
5 four dollars (\$154). However, if the employee's total disability rate for
6 the injury would be two hundred five dollars and thirty-five cents (\$205.35)
7 per week or greater, then the maximum permanent partial disability rate shall
8 be seventy-five percent (75%) of the employee's total disability rate.

9 (B) The permanent partial disability rate for compensation
10 payable to an employee for permanent partial disability which results from an
11 injury occurring on or after the effective date of this act shall not exceed
12 seventy percent (70%) of the employee's average weekly wage, with a twenty-
13 dollar-per-week minimum, subject to a maximum annual salary total of weekly
14 benefit payments of one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) divided by
15 fifty-two (52) weeks.

16 (2)(A) The permanent partial disability rate provided herein
17 shall also apply to scheduled permanent injuries except those resulting in
18 amputation or permanent total loss of use of a member.

19 (B) The permanent partial disability rate for amputation
20 or permanent total loss of use of a member shall be the same as the
21 employee's total disability rate as specified in subsection (b) of this
22 section, ~~subject to the maximum as set forth in subdivision (b)(4) of this~~
23 ~~section.~~

24 ~~(3) The provisions of this subsection shall apply only to those~~
25 ~~injuries which occur on or after January 1, 1996.~~

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