

### Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original       Updated       Corrected       Supplemental

**LRB Number** 21-5800/1      **Introduction Number** SB-898

**Description**  
various changes to the worker's compensation law and granting rule-making authority

**Fiscal Effect**

**State:**  
 No State Fiscal Effect  
 Indeterminate  
     Increase Existing Appropriations       Increase Existing Revenues       Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget  
     Decrease Existing Appropriations       Decrease Existing Revenues       Yes       No  
     Create New Appropriations       Decrease Costs

**Local:**  
 No Local Government Costs  
 Indeterminate  
    1.  Increase Costs      3.  Increase Revenue      5. Types of Local Government Units Affected  
         Permissive  Mandatory       Permissive  Mandatory       Towns       Village       Cities  
    2.  Decrease Costs      4.  Decrease Revenue       Counties       Others  
         Permissive  Mandatory       Permissive  Mandatory       School Districts       WTCS Districts

**Fund Sources Affected**      **Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations**  
 GPR     FED     PRO     PRS     SEG     SEGS    Potentially all Chapter 20 Appropriations that fund Staff costs

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## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DWD 2/8/2022

LRB Number	21-5800/1	Introduction Number	SB-898	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> various changes to the worker's compensation law and granting rule-making authority					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill makes various changes to the Worker's Compensation Law. Only two of the ten provisions in the bill have a potential fiscal impact to the department and the State of Wisconsin.

This bill increases the maximum compensation paid to injured employees for permanent partial disability (PPD). The bill proposes to increase compensation to \$415/week for injuries occurring on and after the effective date of the bill, and to \$430/week for injuries on and after January 1, 2023. This may increase worker's compensation insurance premiums for insured employers and workers compensation payments for self-insured employers. The State of Wisconsin is a self-insured employer, and therefore, as a state agency, the department may experience higher workers compensation costs for employees who sustain work related injuries. Under this provision of the bill, self-insured employers could have increased workers compensation payments where the specific impact to the department and all self-insured employers is minimal and indeterminate at this time.

This bill also changes the hours of work used to calculate workers compensation benefits paid to part-time employees, which could result in lower average weekly benefits for some part-time employees who sustain work-related injuries. Because self-insured employers pay workers compensation costs for employees who sustain work related injuries, this provision of the bill could result in reduced workers compensation costs for self-insured employers, including the department as part of the State of Wisconsin, and the specific impact to the department and all self-insured employers is minimal and indeterminate at this time.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Indeterminate.