



HB 21-1207 – Over Payments of Workers Compensation Benefits
Wednesday, April 21, 2021

- Chairman Rodriguez – Madam Vice-chair Danielson - Members of the committee - thank you for the opportunity to offer written testimony on behalf of the Colorado Competitive Council and the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.
- Our organizations strive to make and keep Colorado's business climate competitive to encourage our continued social and economic success for all of Colorado.
- We respectfully ask the committee to oppose this proposal and work to maintain the integrity of the states worker's compensation system.
- As most of you know the worker's compensation system in Colorado is funded 100% through employer premiums.
- It is designed to provide for injured workers – medical expenses to aid their recovery and lost wage to keep them financially whole while they recover - or in the most extreme cases death benefits for workers killed on the job.
- Employers are protected from liability in exchange for providing coverage for injured worker at no cost to them.

- To keep the program financially and morally viable it is important to maintain robust benefits that help injured workers get healthy and replace their lost wages as they recover – anything that goes beyond that works to unnecessarily increase premiums for employers at a time when they can least afford it.
- The legislature and Colorado’s business community have worked hard to develop and maintain our system of work comp. If this drives up costs and we
- If overpayments occur they need to be paid back otherwise the cost increases on the system and employers to benefit only the worker who has received the unearned benefit.
- It is our understanding that these types of cases don’t happen often and we ask the committee to support our employer community and oppose HB 21-1207.
- Thank you.