



# DOAA

Georgia Department  
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin  
State Auditor

March 21, 2022

Honorable Dean Burke  
Chairman, Senate Insurance and Labor  
421-B State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note  
House Bill 1409 (LC 36 5168)

Dear Chairman Burke:

This bill would increase the maximum weekly workers' compensation benefit available to certain employees. For those with a temporarily total disability, the weekly maximum would be increased from \$675 to \$725. The weekly maximum would move from 450 to \$483 for those with a partial, but temporary, disability. Finally, the maximum total payment to a surviving spouse who is sole dependent would increase from \$270,000 to \$290,000. The compensation schedules apply to employees as defined by § 34-9-1.

The Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) estimated the bill would increase state employee claims up to \$1.4 million. DOAS, which handles workers' compensation claims for state employees, identified the four-year average number of claims with a temporary total (235) and partial (451) disabilities. The additional weekly cost for each group was multiplied by 52 weeks to obtain the maximum additional costs. The cost will be less if all claims are not open a full 52 weeks; therefore, the \$1.4 million is an upper bound for the reported number and distribution of claims.

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin  
State Auditor

Kelly Farr, Director  
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/KF/mt