

Council Committee

Report Date: April 15, 2019

City of Salem

Bill Name	Position	Priority
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HB 2418 INTRO	Oppose	1
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Relating to occupational diseases for purposes of workers' compensation for certain workers.

Specifies certain presumptions as to cause of death, disability or impairment of health of fire service professional, public safety personnel or employee of public or private safety agency with duties related to firefighting, police, ambulance or emergency medical services in claim for benefits related to occupational disease under workers' compensation law.

1/22/2019 - HB 2418 would expand the types of occupational diseases considered presumptive under workers' compensation for public safety employees. The City is participating with CIS (City-County Insurance Services) and SDAO (special districts) in opposing the bill and looking for alternate solutions (such as employee assistance programs).

SB 507 INTRO	Oppose	1
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Relating to occupational diseases for purposes of workers' compensation for certain workers.

Specifies certain presumptions as to cause of death, disability or impairment of health of fire service professional, public safety personnel or employee of public or private safety agency with duties related to firefighting, police, ambulance or emergency medical services in claim for benefits related to occupational disease under workers' compensation law.

4/12/2019 - SB507 would expand the types of occupational diseases considered presumptive under workers' compensation for public safety employees. The City is participating with CIS (City-County Insurance Services) and SDAO (special districts) in opposing the bill due to potential additional cost and overbroad scope requirements it would place on employers.

Bill Name	Position	Priority
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HB 2353 INTRO	Oppose	2
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Relating to public records; declaring an emergency.

Authorizes Attorney General, district attorney or court to award penalty to public records requester, plus reasonable attorney fees, if public body responds to request with undue delay or fails to be responsive to request.

4/9/2019 - HB 2354 amends Oregon's Public Records law to authorize the Attorney General, the district attorney, or a court to award a penalty and attorney fees if a public body responds to a request with undue delay or fails to be responsive to a request. Proposed amendments to the bill set the penalty at \$200 and also authorize a fee waiver or fee reduction in addition to the penalty. The DA's office reviews a vast majority of appeals of public records denials or fee waiver denials. This review process provides an expeditious and efficient resolution of most disputes. Adding arguments over whether penalties should be imposed will reduce the efficiency of the process, will increase the formality and possibly the cost of the process, and have a chilling effect on the candor of the parties in response to inquiries from the DA's office.