

One Hundred Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2021

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB441

Chairperson: Senator Ben Hansen

Committee: Business and Labor

Date of Hearing: March 01, 2021

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB441 provides that essential workers who test positive for COVID-19, who have COVID-19 listed as the cause of death on their death certificate, or who quarantine at the direction of their employer are presumed to have been exposed to the virus in the course of their employment for purposes of workers' compensation claims. An employer may rebut the presumption by affirmatively proving the employee contracted COVID-19 outside the workplace.

Under the bill, COVID-19 claims by employees would not affect employers' workers' compensation insurance premiums.

The bill creates a fund that would be used to pay for retroactive COVID-19 workers' compensation claims with the intent that it would be funded primarily by federal funds available for COVID-19 recovery.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Matt Hansen