
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1293 (Wallis) - Workers' compensation: qualified medical evaluators

Version: April 9, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 29, 2025

Policy Vote: L., P.E. & R. 5 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Robert Ingenito

Bill Summary: AB 1293 would require the Administrative Director (AD) of the Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) within the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) to develop and make available (1) a template qualified medical evaluator (QME) report form, as specified, and (2) a medical evaluation request form for parties to communicate with a panel QME in advance of a medical-legal evaluation. Additionally, the bill would require the AD, by January 1, 2027, to (1) promulgate regulations to establish a process to submit a medical-legal report alleged to be inaccurate or incomplete, as specified, (2) annually evaluate medical-legal reports, and (3) publish the annual report on DWC's internet website.

***** ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 29, 2025

Fiscal Impact: DIR indicates that it would incur annual costs of about \$1 million to implement the provisions of the bill (Workers' Compensation Administration Revolving Fund).

Author Amendments:

- Eliminate the requirement that DWC promulgate regulations to establish a process by which a party to a case may submit a medical-legal report that is alleged to be inaccurate or incomplete to the medical director.
- Modify the requirement of a regulatory process to establish DWC forms to request a Panel QME report by deleting references to "substantial evidence."
- Clarify that none of the changes in 4062.4 limit a party's right to submit information to the QME pursuant to LC 4062.3.

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