

Basic

2008
Workers' Compensation
Legislative Update

John Shilts
Administrator

Workers' Compensation Division

Oregon Successes

- Premium rates have dropped
- Oregon is a safer place to work
- It is less expensive to operate a business in Oregon
- Benefits have increased
- Better return to work potential for workers

2007 – 2008 Legislation

- Elimination of guaranty contracts (SB 559)
- Expanded authority for health care providers (HB 2756)
- Repeal of sunsets – permanent partial disability and nurse practitioner authority (HB 2244 and HB 2247)
- Worker's out-of-pocket litigation costs reduced (SB 404)
- Exemptions for ski volunteers (HB 3632)

What's Coming?

- Employer/employee relationships
- Medical delivery system
 - Cost containment strategies
 - Improved benefit delivery
 - Electronic medical reporting

Management-Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC) Interim Studies

- Fatality benefits
- Reconsideration process
- Significant court cases
- Multiple jobs

2009 WCD Legislative Agenda

- Streamlining & housekeeping
- Vocational assistance technical clean-up
- Exclusive remedy
- MLAC placeholder for death benefits

Questions & Answers

