

# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Comparison Document Base

House Bill 31 & 32 —135th General Assembly

Budget Bills for the  
Department of Workforce Insurance and Safety and  
Ohio Industrial Commission  
(FY 2024-FY 2025)

As Introduced

February 15, 2023

**Executive****BWCCD14 Renaming BWC as the Ohio Department of Workforce Insurance and Safety**

**R.C. 4121.121, 4121.12, 4121.123, 4121.129, and numerous other sections in Chapters 4121., 4123., and others; Sections 610.10, and 741.10,**

Changes the name of the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) to the Department of Workforce Insurance and Safety (ODWIS). Provides that the duties and responsibility under BWC continue under ODWIS. Makes conforming changes to the names of the various offices, boards, and committees overseeing the workers' compensation system.

**Fiscal effect: ODWIS will incur one-time costs to update signs, materials, and its website to reflect the new name.**

**BWCCD15 Changing method for collecting administrative cost assessments**

**R.C. 4123.30, 4121.021, 4123.34, 4123.341, 4123.342, 4123.36; Section 741.20**

Eliminates a requirement that the ODWIS Director assess state fund employers' administrative costs separately from premiums and requires the Director to factor administrative costs into each state fund employers' workers' compensation premium.

Eliminates two accounts in the State Insurance Fund (SIF) currently used as holding accounts for ODWIS's and OIC's administrative costs collected under the administrative assessment eliminated by the bill.

Requires the ODWIS Director to (1) transfer ODWIS's and ODWIS's Board of Directors' administrative costs directly from the SIF to the Workers' Compensation Fund for use by ODWIS and its Board, and (2) transfer OIC's administrative costs directly from the SIF to the Industrial Commission Operating Fund.

Eliminates the Premium Payment Security Fund currently used to pay any uncollectable employer premiums and requires the Director to pay uncollectable premiums directly from the SIF.

Eliminates the requirement that any administrative funds appropriated but not used remain in the respective administrative funds to reduce the amount collected for administrative costs in the next biennium.

**Fiscal effect: None. This does not change how the administrative cost assessments are calculated, only the way they are billed and collected from employers to cover operating costs for ODWIS and OIC.**

**BWCCD1 Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit**

**Section: 200.10**

Earmarks \$828,200 in each fiscal year from Fund 7023 ALI 855410, Attorney General Payments, for the expenses of the Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit within the Attorney General's Office. Requires that these payments be processed at the beginning of each quarter of each fiscal year and deposited into the Workers' Compensation Section Fund (Fund 1950) used by the Attorney General.

Executive

**BWCCD2    Safety and Hygiene**

**Section:    200.10**

Requires the Treasurer of State (TOS) to remit \$23,613,361 cash in FY 2024 and \$24,486,602 cash in FY 2025 from the SIF to the Safety and Hygiene Fund (Fund 8260) in the state treasury to cover the operating expenses of the Division of Safety and Hygiene.

**BWCCD3    Safety Grants**

**Section:    200.10**

Requires the TOS to remit \$35,000,000 cash in each fiscal year from the SIF to Fund 8260 to be used for Safety Grants.

**BWCCD4    Health and Safety Initiative**

**Section:    200.10**

Requires the TOS to remit \$3,000,000 cash in each fiscal year from the SIF to Fund 8260. Requires that these amounts be used under ALI 855611, Health and Safety Initiative, to create and operate a health and wellness program.

**BWCCD5    Safety Campaign**

**Section:    200.10**

Requires the TOS to remit \$1,500,000 cash in each fiscal year from the SIF to Fund 8260. Requires that these amounts be used under ALI 855612, Safety Campaign, for a statewide safety awareness and education campaign.

**BWCCD6    Federal Grant Programs**

**Section:    200.10**

Specifies that ALI 855609, Safety and Hygiene Operating, may be used to provide the state match for federal grant funding received by the Division of Safety and Hygiene.

**BWCCD7    Vocational Rehabilitation**

**Section:    200.10**

Allows ODWIS and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency to enter into an interagency agreement for the provision of vocational rehabilitation services and staff to mutually eligible clients. Allows ODWIS to provide funds from the SIF to fund vocational rehabilitation services and staff in accordance with the interagency agreement.

**BWCCD8    Research Grants**

**Section:    200.10**

Requires the TOS to remit \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year from the SIF to Fund 8260. Requires that these amounts be used under ALI 855613, Research Grants, to operate the occupational safety and health research program.

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**Executive**

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**BWCCD9 Substance Use Recovery and Workplace Safety Program****Section: 200.10**

Requires the TOS to remit \$4,000,000 cash in each fiscal year from the SIF to Fund 8260. Requires that these amounts be used under ALI 855618, Substance Use Recovery and Workplace Safety Program, for the opioid workplace safety program.

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**BWCCD10 Safety and Health Workforce Safety Innovation Center****Section: 200.10**

Requires the TOS to remit \$15,000,000 cash in each fiscal year from the SIF to Fund 8260. Requires that these amounts be used under ALI 855619, Safety and Health Workforce Safety Innovation Center, for a center of excellence at the Ohio Center of Occupational Safety and Health.

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**BWCCD11 Administrative Cost Fund****Section: 200.10**

Requires the TOS to remit up to \$25,000,000 cash in each fiscal year from the SIF to the Workers' Compensation Fund (Fund 7023).

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**BWCCD12 Deputy Inspector General for the Worker's Compensation System Funding****Section: 200.20**

Requires the OBM Director to transfer \$425,000 cash every six months of the biennium from Fund 7023 to the Deputy Inspector General for the Workers' Compensation System Fund (Fund 5FT0) for the costs related to the Deputy Inspector General for the Workers' Compensation System.

Specifies that if additional amounts are needed, the Inspector General may seek Controlling Board approval for additional transfers of cash and to increase the amount appropriated in ALI 965604, Deputy Inspector General for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Ohio Industrial Commission.

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Executive

OICCD1     Rent – William Green Building

Section:    1

Requires that ALI 845402, Rent - William Green Building, be used for rent and operating expenses for the space occupied by the Industrial Commission in the William Green Building.