

PolicyGoal:

A Lean, Productive Workers' Compensation System

An efficient and effective workers' compensation system benefits workers, employers, and the economy of the state. It is built on the following principles:

- Safety is the number one priority for Ohio's manufacturers.
- Injured workers receive prompt benefits that are adequate for returning to work quickly and safely.
- Rates are established by sound actuarial principles, so that employers pay workers' compensation rates commensurate with the risk they bring to the system.
- The system is financed with well-functioning insurance mechanisms, including reserving and investment practices that ensure fund solvency and stability.
- The benefit delivery system deploys best-in-class disability management practices that drive down costs for employers and improve service and outcomes for injured parties.
- The system consistently roots out fraud, whether by employers, workers or providers.

FUNDAMENTAL PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE ACTION INCLUDE:

- The Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) should continue to reform its medical management system to lower costs and improve medical quality through better coordination of care and development of a payment system that creates incentives for best clinical practices. In doing this, the BWC should build on emerging best practices in the private health care system.
- The Ohio General Assembly should enact statutory reforms of benefit definitions so the claims adjudication process is more predictable, less susceptible to fraud and manipulation, and less costly for employers and employees.
- The Industrial Commission should record hearings so the hearing process is more transparent and any appeals have a record on which to build.
- The Industrial Commission should create a mechanism whereby employers can file complaints related to the hearings process without the risk of adverse consequences.

A WORD ABOUT WORKPLACE GUN POLICY

Manufacturers remain concerned with weapons violence and the erosion of private property laws at the expense of more relaxed gun rights. Ohio needs to ensure that businesses are in the driver's seat and can make decisions about whether an individual can bring a weapon, concealed or otherwise, onto their private property.