



2017 Legislative Recap

WORKER PROTECTION



Workers' Memorial Scholarship Account



Increases the Workers' Memorial Scholarship Account, which awards scholarships to dependents or spouses of workers killed or permanently disabled on the job. ([SB 93](#))

Current cap	New cap
\$250,000	\$1 million

Permanent total disability benefits

Raises minimum and maximum benefit for workers receiving a permanent total disability award. ([HB 2337](#))

	Minimum	Maximum
Current	\$50 or 90% of worker's average weekly wage	100% of state average weekly wage
New	33% of state average weekly wage	133% of state average weekly wage

Workers' compensation death benefits

Increases the allowed age of dependents of a worker who died on the job and simplifies eligibility for benefits. ([HB 2338](#))

New safety positions


9

Nine OSHA safety and health inspectors and consultants. ([SB 5512](#))

Oregon OSHA penalties

Aligns Oregon OSHA's penalties to federal OSHA's, which results in higher maximum penalties for employers that violate safety and health laws. ([SB 92](#))


CONSUMER PROTECTION



Surprise billing


Bans billing consumers for amounts above what health insurance pays for, when the consumer is in an in-network facility but is treated by an out-of-network medical provider. ([HB 2339](#))

Mortgage loan servicers and debt buyers



Creates licensing systems for these two industries, allowing DCBS to set standards and take action to protect consumers. ([SB 98](#), [HB 2356](#))

Reproductive health

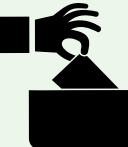


Requires insurers to cover specified health care services, drugs, devices, products, and procedures related to reproductive health at no cost to the consumer. ([HB 3391](#))

Securities professionals

Requires securities professionals to carry at least \$1 million in insurance to cover losses due to bad acts. ([SB 96](#))


Senior financial exploitation



Requires securities professionals to report to DCBS suspected cases of elder financial exploitation. ([SB 95](#))

Tiny homes


Creates construction standards for small home of 600 square feet or less. ([HB 2737](#))



Building Codes Division positions

10 new positions will help the division better serve the construction industry by providing inspection services, plan review, and code development. ([HB 5006](#))


HEALTH INSURANCE



Pay parity


Requires DCBS to study parity of insurer payments to mental health providers vs. physical health providers. ([SB 860](#))

Pharmacy benefit managers



Allows DCBS to deny pharmacy benefit manager registration or renewal and take action against them for conduct. ([HB 2388](#))

Health care cost review



Creates task force on health care cost review to study creating rate-setting process for hospitals. ([SB 419](#))

Reinsurance

Establishes Oregon Reinsurance Program to stabilize individual health insurance rates. ([HB 2391](#))