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HOUSE BILL 2724

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State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session

By Representatives McMorris, Cole and Costa

Read first time 01/17/96. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1            AN ACT Relating to payment of job modification or accommodation  
2 costs for injured workers; and amending RCW 51.32.250.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 51.32.250 and 1988 c 161 s 10 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (~~Modification of the injured worker's previous job or modification  
7 of a new job is recognized as a desirable method of returning the  
8 injured worker to gainful employment. In order to assist employers in  
9 meeting the costs of job modification, and to encourage employers to  
10 modify jobs to accommodate retaining or hiring workers with  
11 disabilities resulting from work-related injury, the supervisor or the  
12 supervisor's designee, in his or her discretion, may pay job  
13 modification costs in an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars per  
14 worker per job modification. This payment is intended to be a  
15 cooperative participation with the employer and funds shall be taken  
16 from the appropriate account within the second injury fund.)) (1) The  
17 director or the director's designee, in his or her discretion, may pay,  
18 from the appropriate account within the second injury fund, costs  
19 associated with: (a) Job modifications at an injured worker's previous~~

1 or new place of employment; (b) accommodations for an injured worker at  
2 retraining facilities; and (c) accommodations necessary for an  
3 effective job search by an injured worker. The payments shall not  
4 exceed five thousand dollars per worker per modification or  
5 accommodation.

6 (2) The benefits provided for in this section are available to any  
7 otherwise eligible worker regardless of the date of industrial injury.

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