

2135

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

January 15, 2009

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Introduced by M. of A. JOHN -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Labor

AN ACT to amend the workers' compensation law, in relation to permanent  
total disability

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 15 of the workers' compensation  
2     law, as amended by chapter 675 of the laws of 1977, is amended to read  
3     as follows:  
4     1. Permanent total disability. In case of total disability adjudged to  
5     be permanent sixty-six and two-thirds per centum of the average weekly  
6     wages shall be paid to the employee during the continuance of such total  
7     disability. Loss of both hands, or both arms, or both feet, or both  
8     legs, or both eyes, or of any two thereof, OR APPROVAL FOR FEDERAL  
9     SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS, shall, in the absence of conclusive  
10    proof to the contrary, constitute permanent total disability. In all  
11    other cases permanent total disability shall be determined in accordance  
12    with the facts. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, an  
13    injured employee disabled due to the loss or total loss of use of both  
14    eyes, or both hands, or both arms, or both feet, or both legs, or of any  
15    two thereof shall not suffer any diminution of his OR HER compensation  
16    by engaging in business or employment provided his OR HER earnings or  
17    wages, when combined with his OR HER compensation, shall not be in  
18    excess of the wage base on which the maximum weekly compensation benefit  
19    is computed under the law in effect at time of such earning; further  
20    provided, that if the combination exceeds such wage base, the compensation  
21    shall be diminished to an amount which, together with his OR HER  
22    earnings or wages, shall equal the wage base; and further provided that  
23    the application of this subdivision shall not result in reduction of  
24    compensation which an injured employee who is disabled due to the loss  
25    or total loss of use of both eyes, or both hands, or both arms, or both  
26    feet, or both legs or of any two thereof, would otherwise be entitled to  
27    under any other provision of this section.  
28    S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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