STATE OF NEW YORK

921

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 9, 2023

Introduced by Sen. COONEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the workers' compensation law, in relation to the weekly benefit of a disabled employee

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 204 of the workers' compensation law, as amended by section 5 of part SS of chapter 54 of the laws of 2016, is amended to read as follows:

(b) **The weekly benefit which the disabled employee is entitled to receive for disability commencing: (i) on or after January first, two thousand twenty-five shall be fifty percent of the employee's average weekly wage but shall not exceed fifty percent of the state average weekly wage; (ii) on or after January first, two thousand twenty-six shall be fifty-five percent of the employee's average weekly wage but shall not exceed fifty-five percent of the state average weekly wage; (iii) on or after January first, two thousand twenty-seven shall be sixty percent of the employee's weekly average wage but shall not exceed sixty percent of the state average weekly wage; and (iv) on or after January first of each succeeding year, shall be sixty-seven percent of the employee's average weekly wage but shall not exceed sixty-seven percent of the state average weekly wage.** The weekly benefit which the disabled employee is entitled to receive for disability commencing on or after May first, nineteen hundred eighty-nine **and prior to January first, two thousand twenty-five** shall be one-half of the employee's weekly wage, but in no case shall such benefit exceed one hundred seventy dollars; except that if the employee's average weekly wage is less than twenty dollars, the benefit shall be such average weekly wage. The weekly benefit which the disabled employee is entitled to receive for disability commencing on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-four shall be one-half of the employee's weekly wage, but in no case

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

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shall such benefit exceed one hundred forty-five dollars; except that if the employee's average weekly wage is less than twenty dollars, the benefit shall be such average weekly wage. The weekly benefit which the disabled employee is entitled to receive for disability commencing on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-three and prior to July first, nineteen hundred eighty-four shall be one-half of the employee's average weekly wage, but in no case shall such benefit exceed one hundred thirty-five dollars nor be less than twenty dollars; except that if the employee's average weekly wage is less than twenty dollars the benefit shall be such average weekly wage. The weekly benefit which the disabled employee is entitled to receive for disability commencing on or after July first, nineteen hundred seventy-four, and prior to July first, nineteen hundred eighty-three, shall be one-half of the employee's average weekly wage, but in no case shall such benefit exceed ninety-five dollars nor be less than twenty dollars; except that if the employee's average weekly wage is less than twenty dollars, the benefit shall be such average weekly wage. The weekly benefit which the disabled employee is entitled to receive for disability commencing on or after July first, nineteen hundred seventy and prior to July first, nineteen hundred seventy-four shall be one-half of the employee's average weekly wage, but in no case shall such benefit exceed seventy-five dollars nor be less than twenty dollars; except that if the employee's average weekly wage is less than twenty dollars the benefit shall be such average weekly wage. For any period of disability less than a full week, the benefits payable shall be calculated by dividing the weekly benefit by the number of the employee's normal work days per week and multiplying the quotient by the number of normal work days in such period of disability. The weekly benefit for a disabled employee who is concurrently eligible for benefits in the employment of more than one covered employer shall, within the maximum and minimum herein provided, be one-half of the total of the employee's average weekly wages received from all such covered employers, and shall be allocated in the proportion of their respective average weekly wage payments.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.