

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 133

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROADWATER

WORKERS COMPENSATION: Requests the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council to study and propose funding sources for an employee reemployment and retraining program

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council to study reemployment
3 and retraining programs for injured workers, to project the amount of funding that
4 is needed, to look for sources of funding, and to report its findings to the House
5 Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations no later than December 31, 2012.

6 WHEREAS, the return of an injured employee to the workforce as soon as possible
7 is beneficial for both the worker and employer; and

8 WHEREAS, the retraining and reemployment of an injured employee who, due to
9 an injury, is no longer able to perform the duties for which he was trained is imperative; and

10 WHEREAS, the longer an injured worker is out of the workforce, the more likely he
11 is to remain out of the workforce indefinitely; and

12 WHEREAS, on March 29, 2012, Representative Broadwater proposed House Bill
13 No. 360 to the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations which would have
14 created the Injured Employee Reemployment and Retraining Fund; and

15 WHEREAS, although most parties were in agreement with the concept, many believe
16 it is cost prohibitive; and

17 WHEREAS, funding sources that involve federal match dollars are available to the
18 Louisiana Workforce Commission for various programs such as Louisiana Rehabilitative
19 Services and the Second Injury Fund; and

1 WHEREAS, an injured worker reemployment and retraining program could be
2 funded with the help of the federal dollars; and

3 WHEREAS, the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council is statutorily created by
4 R.S. 23:1294 and charged with monitoring and reporting to the governor and the legislature
5 the implementation and administration of workers' compensation claims and related issues;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the director of the office of workers' compensation administration of
8 the Louisiana Workforce Commission is the chairman of the Workers' Compensation
9 Advisory Council; and

10 WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council
11 study the feasibility of creating reemployment and retraining programs for injured workers.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
13 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Workers' Compensation Advisory
14 Council to study reemployment and retraining programs for injured workers, to project the
15 amount of funding that is needed, to look for sources of funding, and to report its findings
16 to the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations no later than December 31, 2012.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
18 Louisiana Workforce Commission.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Broadwater

HR No. 133

Requests the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council to study reemployment and retraining programs for injured workers, to project the amount of funding that is needed, to look for sources of funding, and to report its findings to the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations by Dec. 31, 2012.