

FISCAL NOTE
SB 309 - HB 510

March 14, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL: Provides that the death benefit amount covered under the workers compensation law will be 3 times the current death benefit amount that is paid to a deceased employee's dependents or the estate of the deceased employee if the death resulted from a Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health violation.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000/Claims Award Fund

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000

Estimate assumes:

- based on a 5 year history of the Department of Treasury, the Claims Award Fund has approved an average of one claim per year, with an average total death benefit of \$129,850. This bill would triple that amount if it were a TOSHA violation. Although based on the state's history of death claims, most deaths relate to heart attacks and auto accidents, if one claim, filed by a state employee, falls under the provisions of the bill the increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$100,000.
- a potential increase in local government expenditures to the extent that claims, filed by employees of local governments, come under the provisions of the bill.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

SB 309 - HB 510