

2024 MLAC Workplan List of Topics

02/27/24

- **Workers' access to and understandability of information re: workers' compensation**
 1. – QR code – for the **required posters/Spanish**
 - Insurer QR code to 801 or to portal to injured worker website
 - Easier access through smartphones
 2. Worker friendly website – where to go next in the process (interactive flow chart)
 3. Other formats (meet workers where they are) – language, videos, podcasts, electronic, etc. work w the Ombuds for Oregon Workers to share videos
 4. Interactive flowchart for injured workers
 5. Where are the information bottlenecks? Language barriers? Demographic data to help guide info bottlenecks (21-24%)
 6. What are the problems? (Complaint box/Feedback) Length of forms are arduous. Possibly shorten and simplify
 7. Round-up level – not piecemeal fashion. Address consistently and in whole
 8. Consider the worker perspective
 9. **Focus Groups/Listening Tour, explore different locations for in-person meetings**
 10. Communications with workers about MCO enrollment
- **Ongoing intimidation of and retaliation against workers**
 1. Inability to capture that information – workers choosing to not enter the system. How do we get more workers to step forward and report?
 2. WC education to suggest when a worker starts a new job (i.e. Workers Bill of Rights in a digestible manner)
 3. Ongoing education to address issues throughout a worker's tenure on a job – culture and practice
 4. Ombuds Office – Retaliation of Safety and WC – Work has started
 5. Training on what and when employers are required to provide to workers
 6. Method of communication (point 1)
- **Overarching Review of Worker benefits**
 1. **Examination of open-ended time loss (full committee)**
 2. Fair system for both management and labor
 3. 66 2/3 time loss rate analysis of data
- **Legislative session preparation**
 1. ~~Develop list of guidelines and general questions to assist with presenting legislative concepts to MLAC. Completed 9/7/2023~~
 2. ~~Develop a video to go with the guidelines document. Completed 1/4/2024~~
 3. ~~MLAC legislative website with guidelines document, video and resources. Completed 1/4/2024~~

Other items:

- ~~Case law/litigation updates – the Board has suggested a number of topic areas that MLAC consider discussing as policy~~

1. ~~Board's managing attorney (or designee) brings to MLAC recent court cases and invites discussion~~
- Ongoing updates:
 1. Annual Workers' Benefit Fund report (next report due early 2024)
 2. Biennial permanent partial disability report (next report due early 2024)
 3. Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences annual report – they are partially funded with workers' compensation funds (next report October 2024)
 4. Report on firefighter cancer presumption from NIOSH (tentative 2024) see MLAC [letter from HB 4113](#) on presumption from the 2022 legislative session
 - Educational sessions on topics as needed
 1. DEI, provide training at the next in-person meeting, 4/4/2024 or 7/11/2024
 2. Insurer's perspective start to finish
 3. Injured worker's perspective start to finish
 4. Mental health
 5. ~~Overview of Boards, Commissions and Small Entities~~