Preliminary Findings of Supplemental Job Displacement Benefits (SJDB) Voucher Program Assessment

Legislative Directive by Senator Lara
To the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers’ Compensation

June 7, 2018
Issues examined

• Trends in SJDB program
• Sociodemographics of SJDB recipients
• Injuries associated with SJDB recipients
• Overview of efforts in progress
Percent of PPD injured workers with any paid SJDB increased slightly over time for 2011-2014 injuries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Injury Year</th>
<th>% PPD injuries with any paid SDJB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2.38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2.06%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>5.03%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5.02%</td>
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</tbody>
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Just over half use full $6K allowance

- 47% of SJDB cases have less than $6,000 SJDB paid
- Average paid SJDB per case is $4,600 for 2013-2014 injuries
- 60% of SJDB recipients begin to receive benefit from one to three years after date of injury

Sociodemographics of SJDB program recipients

• Mostly male (42% female)
• Average age is 43.5 years
• Average weekly wage is $634.49
• 43% live in a zip code associated with low English literacy
• 31% live in a zip code associated with low internet access
• Half live in Southern California (30% in Los Angeles)

Source: RAND Analysis of WCIS data, injury years 2013-2014: WC1219 (2018), Table B16, p.144
SJDB distribution aligns with all WC claims

Injury site of SJDB cases

Injury site of all claims

Source: DIR analysis of WCIS data
Strains and lifting injuries lead in causes of injury for SDJB recipients

Source: DIR analysis of WCIS data
A closer look: Labor and maintenance occupations comprise a third of SJDB recipient claims

• Labor occupations = 23% (vs. 13% for all WC claims)
  • Labor includes general labor, mover, loader, warehouse worker, roofer, construction worker, tree trimmer, heavy load workers
  • 15% injuries caused by slips, trips, or falls (vs. 6.5% in all claims)
  • 14% injuries caused by lifting (vs. 9.5% in all claims)

• Maintenance occupations = 13% (vs. 11% for all WC claims)
  • Maintenance includes housekeeping, cooking, janitors, caregivers
  • 20% injuries caused by slips, trips, or falls (vs. 6.5% in all claims)
  • 15% injuries caused by lifting (vs. 9.5% in all claims)

Source: DIR analysis of WCIS data
Overview of efforts in progress

• Evaluation of legitimacy of training partners
• Worker survey regarding SJDB program
  • Evaluation of services
  • Benefits of training for workers
• Recommendations to improve SJDB process to better serve injured workers