

INFORMATION BULLETIN

July 15, 2025

DCRB Information Bulletin #022

To all members of the DCRB:

Senate Bill 145 Signed into Law, Modernizing Delaware's Workers' Compensation System

The Delaware Compensation Rating Bureau (DCRB) is sharing this update to inform members that Senate Bill 145 (SB 145) was signed into law by Governor Matt Meyer on June 30, 2025. The bill became effective immediately and introduces notable updates to the Delaware's Workers' Compensation Act.

Highlights of SB 145 include:

- **Direct Deposit for Benefit Payments** With the injured workers consent, carriers and self-insured employers are now authorized to pay total or partial disability benefits using direct deposit, improving both speed, security, and convenience for injured workers.
- Full Reimbursement for Safety & Inspection Programs Previously, the Division of Industrial Affairs could request reimbursement for 66.6% of costs associated with workplace safety and inspection functions. SB 145 raises that reimbursement rate to 100%, ensuring that the Division can fully fund its critical compliance and prevention efforts. These programs play a central role in identifying hazards, promoting workplace safety, and ultimately reducing the frequency and severity of claims.

In addition to improving benefit delivery, SB 145 also includes technical updates to align the statute with current drafting standards.

These changes reflect a continued effort by state policymakers to modernize Delaware's workers' compensation system, reduce friction in benefit delivery and ensure sustained funding for essential safety oversight.

If you have questions or would like additional context, please contact Communications & Marketing Manager Joe Petrucci at <u>jpetrucci@pcrb.com</u> and 215-320-4925.