

# **2022 Workers Compensation** Legislative Trends

**Tim Tucker** 

Washington Affair Executive

© Copyright 2022 National Council on Compensation Insurance, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

#### **Legislative Monitoring Overview for 2022**

NCCI tracked more than <b>850</b> state and federal WC-related bills	About <b>450</b> of the tracked bills were in NCCI jurisdictions
More than <b>110</b> WC-related bills were enacted	Almost <b>120</b> COVID-19 insurance-related bills, including workers compensation



#### **Overview**

- COVID-19 and Workers Compensation
- Mental Injuries
- Marijuana Legalization
- Single-Payer Health Insurance
- Independent Contractors/Gig Economy





#### **COVID-19 WC Presumptions**

Four types of legislation:

- Bills extending COVID-19 presumptions
- Bills expanding COVID-19 presumptions
- Bills establishing new COVID-19 presumptions
- Bills establishing infectious disease presumptions





#### WC and COVID-19 Vaccinations

Three types of legislation:

- Bills establishing workers compensation presumptions for adverse impacts
- Bills specifying injuries are compensable under the workers compensation law
- Bills creating a private right of action against an employer





#### **Mental Injuries**

- More than 60 bills addressing workers compensation for workplace-related mental injuries
- More than 45 of these bills were related to posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- A handful of states enacted legislation to date





#### **Marijuana Legalization—State Activity**

- Recreational marijuana
- Medical marijuana
- Reimbursement for medical marijuana in workers compensation





### Marijuana Legalization—Federal Activity

- Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act
- Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement (MORE) Act
- Safe and Fair Enforcement Banking (SAFE) Banking Act
- House Oversight
  Committee Hearing





## **Single-Payer Health Insurance**

- Key elements of workers compensation-related proposals:
  - Whether and how to continue funding for those healthcare services currently covered by the workers compensation system
  - Whether and how to incorporate an element of experience rating





## **Independent Contractors/Gig Economy**

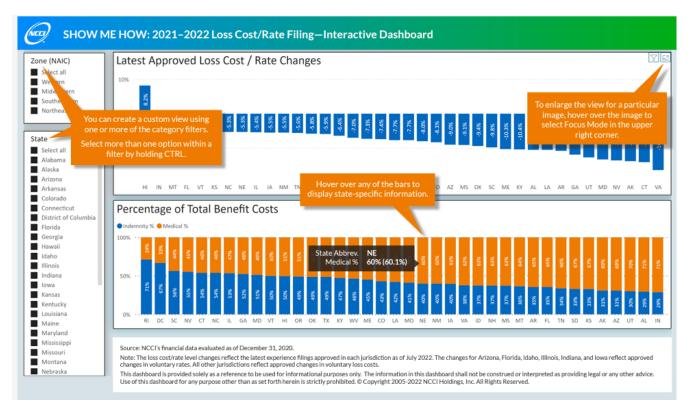
Types of Legislation:

- Bills establishing a multiprong test to determine whether a worker is an employee or an independent contractor
- Bills specific to the employment status of certain gig workers





#### 2021–2022 Loss Cost/Rate Changes Dashboard

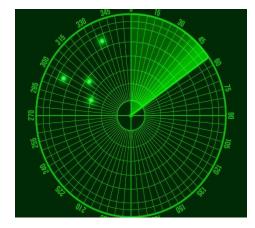




## **Emerging Issues**

NCCI Continues to Examine:

- Continued Impact of COVID-19
- Trends in Claim Frequency and Severity
- Medical Costs: Inflation and Utilization



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-ND



## THANK YOU!

