

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

H

1

HOUSE BILL 688

Short Title: WC/Limit Benefits of High Earners. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Brawley and Hager (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Judiciary IV.

April 14, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT AMENDING THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT TO LIMIT THE
3 BENEFITS PAYABLE TO HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article 1 of Chapter 97 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
6 a new section to read:

7 "**§ 97-31.2. Limit on benefits payable to highly compensated employees.**

8 (a) Any employee whose injury by accident or occupational disease, or whose last
9 injurious exposure, arose out of and in the course of employment shall not be entitled to
10 compensation under G.S. 97-29, 97-30, or 97-31 if the employee's earnings at the time of the
11 injury result in an average weekly wage of more than 10 times the maximum benefit amount as
12 computed pursuant to G.S. 97-29(i) at such time. For an occupational disease claim, the
13 determination will be made based upon the employee's earnings for the final year of
14 employment during the course of the occupation which gives rise to the occupational disease
15 claim.

16 (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to eliminate or diminish an employer's
17 obligation to pay medical expenses as provided by this Chapter."

18 **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding G.S. 97-31.1, this act is effective when it becomes
19 law and applies to claims arising on or after that date.



* H 6 8 8 - V - 1 *