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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7169
BILL NUMBER: HB 1664

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 9, 2005
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Religious Exemption from Worker's Compensation.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Stutzman
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **X** **GENERAL**
                                DEDICATED
                                FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that an employee and employer who have religious objections to receiving certain insurance benefits may file an application with the Worker's Compensation Board (Board) to be exempt from worker's compensation benefits for personal injury or death by accident and occupational diseases. It requires the Board to grant the exemption if the Board makes certain findings. The bill extends the exemption to certain members of the employee's family for worker's compensation benefits that might be due to them.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill allows an employer and employee who have a religious objection to receiving public or private insurance benefits to file an application to be exempted from worker's compensation and occupational diseases law. The application must include a written waiver and statement on a form provided by the Worker's Compensation Board. The Board must grant the exemption if certain conditions are met. It is not known how many employers would be eligible to file an application for exemption. These requirements may increase costs of the Worker's Compensation Board. However, the impact would be minimal and could be absorbed in the current budget.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Worker's Compensation Board.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

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