



WorkInjuryRights.com Compensation Attorneys Report Major Shift in Medical Access for Injured Workers

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WorkInjuryRights.com attorney David Benn reports that Florida Senate Bill 362, which took effect January 1, 2025, is transforming medical care access for Miami workers injured on the job through significant increases in physician reimbursement rates.

The legislation raises physician reimbursement rates to 175 percent of Medicare for standard services and 210 percent for surgical procedures, marking a substantial change in how medical providers are compensated for treating workers compensation cases. These increases address longstanding challenges in Miami-Dade County, where physician participation in the workers' compensation system has been limited due to previously low reimbursement rates.

"Miami-Dade County has historically struggled with physician participation in the workers' compensation system, creating significant barriers for injured workers seeking medical treatment," stated David Benn, Partner at WorkInjuryRights.com. "The increased payments under Senate Bill 362 will incentivize more

Miami-area orthopedic surgeons, pain management specialists, and primary care physicians to accept workers' compensation patients, fundamentally improving access to care."

The timing of this legislation is particularly significant for Miami's workforce. Construction workers, hospitality employees, and healthcare professionals throughout Miami-Dade County have faced challenges accessing specialized medical care following workplace injuries. The previous reimbursement structure often resulted in lengthy wait times for appointments and limited provider options, potentially delaying recovery and return to work.

Under the new reimbursement structure, medical providers treating injured workers will receive substantially higher payments than under the previous system. This change addresses a critical gap in the Florida workers' compensation framework that has affected thousands of injured workers annually. The enhanced rates apply to all medical services provided to workers' compensation patients, from initial evaluations through surgical interventions and ongoing treatment.

"Injured workers in Miami's construction, hospitality, and healthcare sectors stand to benefit significantly from expanded access to medical providers as these reimbursement changes take full effect throughout 2025," Benn observed. "This legislation represents a meaningful shift in how Florida approaches workplace injury care, prioritizing both provider participation and patient access."

The implementation of Senate Bill 362 comes at a time when workplace injury rates remain a concern across South Florida's major industries. Construction sites, hotels, restaurants, and medical facilities continue to see workplace injuries that require prompt, specialized medical attention. The expanded provider network expected to result from increased reimbursements will be particularly beneficial for workers requiring specialized care from orthopedic surgeons and pain management specialists.

Compensation attorneys working with injured workers have noted that limited medical provider availability has been a persistent challenge in securing appropriate treatment for their clients. The new legislation addresses this systemic issue by creating financial incentives for medical professionals to participate in the workers' compensation system.

WorkInjuryRights.com is a Florida-based law firm specializing in workers' compensation cases. Established in 2014, the firm advocates for injured workers' rights and assists clients in navigating the complexities of workers' compensation claims, including filing assistance, claim denial appeals, and securing appropriate medical treatment and lost wage benefits.

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*WorkInjuryRights.Com? is a team of Florida attorneys and staff that are dedicated to giving each client quality legal
service for worker's compensation claims.*

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