

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 23-80—sHB 6721

Labor and Public Employees Committee
Appropriations Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND PORTAL-TO-PORTAL COVERAGE FOR TELECOMMUNICATORS

SUMMARY: This act extends “portal-to-portal” workers’ compensation coverage to telecommunicators (generally, 9-1-1 emergency dispatchers) in three situations: (1) when they are subject to emergency calls while off duty by the terms of their employment, (2) when they are responding to a direct order to appear at their work assignment when nonessential employees are excused from working, or (3) after working two or more mandatory overtime shifts on consecutive days.

With “portal-to-portal” coverage, an injury that occurs while the employee is travelling directly between his or her home and workplace is deemed to have occurred in the course of the employee’s employment, making him or her eligible to receive workers’ compensation benefits for the injury. Under existing law, police officers and firefighters have portal-to-portal coverage whenever they are travelling directly between home and work. Department of Correction employees also have portal-to-portal coverage (1) when they are responding to a direct order to appear at their work assignment when nonessential employees are excused from working or (2) after they have worked two or more mandatory overtime shifts on consecutive days.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023