

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

FILED SENATE
Feb 5, 2025
S.B. 57
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS35030-LR-11A

Short Title: Workers' Comp/Pay for Hearing Aids & Glasses. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Hanig (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT AMENDING THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT DEFINITION OF "INJURY
3 AND PERSONAL INJURY" REGARDING BREAKAGE OR DAMAGE TO
4 EYEGASSES AND HEARING AIDS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 97-2(6) reads as rewritten:

7 "(6) Injury. – "Injury and personal injury" shall mean only injury by accident
8 arising out of and in the course of the employment, and shall not include a
9 disease in any form, except where it results naturally and unavoidably from
10 the accident. With respect to back injuries, however, where injury to the back
11 arises out of and in the course of the employment and is the direct result of a
12 specific traumatic incident of the work assigned, "injury by accident" shall be
13 construed to include any disabling physical injury to the back arising out of
14 and causally related to such incident. Injury shall include breakage or damage
15 to eyeglasses, hearing aids, dentures, or other prosthetic devices which
16 function as part of the body; ~~provided, however, that eyeglasses and hearing~~
17 ~~aids will not be replaced, repaired, or otherwise compensated for unless injury~~
18 ~~to them is incidental to a compensable injury-body."~~

19 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to claims for
20 workers' compensation benefits arising prior to, on, or after that date.



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