GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL 57

Short Title:	Workers' Comp/Pay for Hearing Aids & Glasses.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senator Hanig (Primary Sponsor).	
Referred to:	Rules and Operations of the Senate	

February 6, 2025

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AMENDING THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT DEFINITION OF "INJURY AND PERSONAL INJURY" REGARDING BREAKAGE OR DAMAGE TO EYEGLASSES AND HEARING AIDS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

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