

**10 days remaining to fix these cuts to truly injured workers!**

## **Permanent Disability Horror Story No. 9 Mario Garcia**

*The Schwarzenegger Administration's Disability Rating Schedule severely cuts benefits to permanently disabled workers.*

**About Me:** My name is Mario Garcia. I am 31 years old, and I live in Santa Cruz.

**My Family:** I have one son, Brian, who is 8 years old.

**My Job and What Happened:** I worked as a carpenter, and twisted my knee while carrying plywood. I've had three surgeries, and will not be able to return to carpentry work. Because of my work injury, I'm not able to lift anything heavy, climb a ladder, or even walk on uneven ground. I can no longer squat, kneel, crouch, crawl, pivot, or do many other things carpenters have to do.

**What this has meant to my life:** The Temporary Disability benefits I received as a result of my injury have ended. SCIF refuses to pay me any Permanent Disability supplements. The \$216 a week I receive in Vocational Rehabilitation benefits is my only income. All this money goes to support my child. I am unable to pay my rent. I can't even pay my phone bill, and my phone has been shut off. After working hard for 10 years, I am being left penniless and nearly homeless because I was injured at work.



### **How the Governor's Schedule Affects Me**

**How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me:**

Workers compensation was supposed to provide medical care to heal my injury, retraining for another job, and compensation for having to live with a bum knee for the rest of my life. The governor is taking away almost half of my Permanent Partial Disability compensation, and that's going to seriously hurt my family's finances.

<b>BEFORE</b>	<b>AFTER</b>
<b>\$42,735</b>	<b>\$13,967</b>
	<b>(Down 67%)</b>

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