



California Applicants' Attorneys Association

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GOVERNOR'S VETO OF SB 815 HARMS PERMANENTLY DISABLED WORKERS

SACRAMENTO, CA – Attorneys representing California's injured workers today criticized Governor Schwarzenegger for vetoing SB 815 (Perata), which would have restored permanent disability compensation to injured workers. Multiple independent reports, including a July study by the State of California's Commission on Health & Safety & Workers' Compensation, have found that the Schwarzenegger Administration's workers compensation permanent disability schedule reduces permanent disability compensation by more than 50%.

"The administration's permanent disability ratings schedule severely harms permanently disabled workers," said Linda Atcherley, president of the California Applicants' Attorneys Association, whose members represent injured workers. "The governor's regulations deny injured workers adequate compensation, as guaranteed by the California Constitution. It is urgent that the governor bring a halt to the tragedy that is being imposed on Californians injured on the job. The evidence is sufficient and mounting that the governor's regulation is harming injured workers and their families. The governor's permanent disability rating schedule does not comply with the statutory mandate, nor provide fair or adequate compensation for injured workers. We will continue to pursue our legal challenge through the WCAB, the State Legislature and the courts. We call upon the governor to work with the Legislature to correct this injustice."

To see personal workers' comp. horror stories from the governor's permanent disability takeaways, visit: <http://www.viaw.org/>

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