

FACT
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Arbitrary time-limits on workers' compensation hurt workers.

- Since 1914 – before the enactment of the federal Social Security Act – New York workers who are permanently disabled because of work-related injuries have been entitled to payment for life. It has been the *employer's obligation* to provide for the worker who was injured, saving workers and their families from welfare and the *taxpayers from the burden* of their support.
- Some have proposed to introduce arbitrary time-limits, or “caps,” on worker benefits in exchange for a raise in the maximum rate. This hurts all workers, but especially those who make less than \$600 per week and would not benefit from a rate increase. This group includes most upstate workers and working women.
- From 2001 through 2005, **more than half of all workers' compensation claims were filed by workers earning less than \$600 per week.** The median weekly wage is \$556.40 in Buffalo, \$571.60 in Syracuse, \$576.00 in Rochester, and \$619.60 in Albany.
- Increasing the maximum benefit does nothing to help these workers, yet time-limiting their benefits hurts them. This is not progressive reform – it is actually a cut in benefits.

NEW YORK'S INJURED WORKERS DESERVE A RAISE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

The New York Committee For Occupational Safety And Health (NYCOSH) At 212-227-6440 or WWW.NYCOSH.ORG