

February 6, 1957.
Labor.

House File 222
By SWISHER and McCOY.

Passed House, Date..... Passed Senate, Date.....
Vote: Ayes..... Nays..... Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Approved.....

A BILL FOR

An Act to repeal section eighty-five point twenty-seven (85.27), Code 1954, and to enact a substitute therefor, relating to professional and hospital services, physical rehabilitation, replacement of damaged artificial aids under workmen's compensation.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. Section eighty-five point twenty-seven
2 (85.27), Code 1954, is hereby repealed and the following
3 is enacted in lieu thereof:
4 "The employer, with notice or knowledge of the injury,
5 shall furnish surgical, medical, osteopathic, chiropractic,
6 chiropodial and hospital treatment including nurses, medicine,
7 medical and surgical supplies, crutches and apparatus
8 including artificial members as may be required at the time
9 of the injury and any time thereafter to cure and to relieve
10 the effects of the injury. Such treatment shall include
11 treatments necessary to physical rehabilitation. The employer
12 shall furnish replacement or repair for artificial members,
13 artificial eyes, dental bridge work, dentures or artificial
14 teeth, hearing aids, canes, crutches, wheel chairs, glasses
15 or spectacles damaged by reason of an injury arising out of
16 or in the course of the employment; such replacements to be
17 comparable in kind and quality to the replaced article.
18 The pecuniary liability of the employer for the treatment,
19 articles and supplies required by this section shall be

20 limited to such reasonable charges as prevail in the
21 particular community.
22 The industrial commissioner may determine the reasonable
23 value of all such services, supplies and liability of the
24 employer, and the employer's liability is limited to the
25 amount so determined. Charges believed to be excessive may
26 be referred to the commissioner for adjustment under the
27 authority of section eighty-six point thirty-nine (86 39)
28 of the Code."

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 222

The purpose of this bill is to provide more equitable benefits to the injured employee than presently exist under Workmen's Compensation Law. This bill provides for physical rehabilitation of the injured workman. It eliminates the present limitation that an employer is required to furnish only one permanent prosthetic device. An injured workman often needs adjustment and change of such devices for proper care and recovery, and provision therefore is made to supply the injured employee treatment, including artificial members from time to time as is necessary. The bill also provides for replacement of artificial body aids that are damaged when an employee is injured in the course of his employment.