

**House Study Bill 181 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
ON COMMERCE BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON CARLSON)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the definition of personal injuries arising  
2 out of and in the course of the employment for the purposes  
3 of compensable acts for workers' compensation.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 85.61, subsection 7, Code 2019, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. Personal injuries due to idiopathic or  
4 unexplained falls onto a surface level do not arise out of and  
5 in the course of employment and are not compensable under this  
6 chapter.

7 EXPLANATION

8 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
9 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

10 This bill relates to the definition of personal injuries  
11 arising out of and in the course of the employment for the  
12 purposes of compensable acts for workers' compensation.

13 Current law provides that the words "personal injury arising  
14 out of and in the course of the employment" shall include  
15 injuries to employees whose services are being performed  
16 on, in, or about the premises which are occupied, used, or  
17 controlled by the employer, and also injuries to those who are  
18 engaged elsewhere in places where their employer's business  
19 requires their presence and subjects them to dangers incident  
20 to the business. Current law also provides that personal  
21 injuries sustained by a volunteer fire fighter arise in the  
22 course of employment if the injuries are sustained at any time  
23 from the time the volunteer fire fighter is summoned to duty  
24 as a volunteer fire fighter until the time the volunteer fire  
25 fighter is discharged from duty by the chief of the volunteer  
26 fire department or the chief's designee. Finally, current law  
27 provides that personal injuries sustained by emergency medical  
28 care providers as defined in Code section 147A.1 arise in the  
29 course of employment if the injuries are sustained at any time  
30 from the time the emergency medical care providers are summoned  
31 to duty until the time those duties have been fully discharged.

32 The bill provides that personal injuries due to idiopathic  
33 or unexplained falls onto a surface level do not arise out of  
34 and in the course of employment and are not compensable under  
35 chapter 85.