

## Regulatory Impact Statement

1. Statutory authority: The Workers' Compensation Board (hereinafter referred to as Board) is authorized to add 12 NYCRR 325-1.6. Workers' Compensation Law (WCL) Sections 141 and 117(1) authorize the Chair to adopt reasonable rules consistent with and supplemental to the provisions of the WCL. WCL section 15(x) requires the Board to adopt new permanency impairment guidelines.
2. Legislative objectives: Section 15(x) of the WCL requires the Board to consult with labor, business, medical, and insurance representatives on revisions to the permanency impairment guidelines. The Board must propose for public comment revised permanency impairment guidelines for the schedule loss of use injuries covered by paragraphs (a) through (v) of subdivision (3) of section 15 of the WCL. The revisions will reflect the advances in modern medicine that result in better outcomes. The Board must adopt the new permanency guidelines by January 1, 2018. The 2012 Permanency Guidelines paragraphs pertaining to WCL § 15(3)(a)-(v) will be repealed on January 1, 2018.
3. Needs and benefits: Section 325-1.6 incorporates by reference the proposed 2017 Workers' Compensation Guidelines for Determining Impairment.
4. Costs: There are no additional projected costs to regulated parties who may be affected by the amendment, as the regulation adopts permanency impairment guidelines designed to reflect improved healing and outcomes. There are no projected costs to the Board, State and local governments.
5. Local government mandates: The proposed amendment does not impose any additional mandate, duty or responsibility upon any municipality or governmental entity.
6. Paperwork: The proposed regulations do not require additional paperwork.

7. Duplication: The statutory authority for the revision to the impairment guidelines exists in section 15(x) of the WCL. It explicitly requires regulations to adopt revised permanency impairment guidelines.

8. Alternatives: There were no significant alternative proposals under consideration.

9. Federal standards: There are no applicable federal standards which address the standards contained in the proposed regulation.

10. Compliance schedule: There is no new compliance burden on employers.