

Jindal: Workers comp limits state's growth

Governor speaks at employers' conference in LC

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Gov. Bobby Jindal said Wednesday that Louisiana's workers' compensation regulations are limiting the state's economic growth.

"I look at unnecessarily high workers' comp costs in our state as another barrier to investing in and doing business in our state," Jindal told an audience at the Louisiana Association of Self Insured Employers' conference in Lake Charles.

"I think it's still unacceptable when other states, including states near us, have much lower costs than the state of Louisiana."

He said that while the state has reformed some parts of its workers' comp system, he

thinks additional changes could yield big benefits for Louisiana's economy.

"We've made some progress over the last several years," he said. "I think it's possible to provide the care that injured workers need while at the same time reducing the cost that our employers pay to make Louisiana an even more attractive place for companies to invest in and create jobs in."

Jindal asked the members of LASIE — a nonprofit group that advocates for employers on workers' compensation issues — to partner with his administration and said he was committed to a renewed push for reform.

"We want to listen and learn and work with the folks on the front lines," he said. "We will work with the Legislature to make whatever statutory and administrative changes we need to make to make sure that we've got a more efficient, effective system."