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Claims for medical expenses or compensation for total disability, permanent partial disability, or death may be submitted to the Department of Corrections and, if valid, the department shall pay the portion of a claim that is not covered by the claimant's insurance. Under current law, eligible claims are for individuals who suffer injury or death and are:

1. inmates of a correctional facility or local jail conditionally released to perform compensated or uncompensated work; or
2. individuals subject to a court order who perform work (a) in restitution, (b) to work off fines or court ordered costs, (c) in lieu of incarceration, or (d) as a condition of a sentence.

This bill limits claims by inmates to injury or death that occurred while performing work in the community. It also expands the list of covered individuals to include those performing work service in lieu of correctional fees and those on a sentence-to-service work crew.