The Second Bill

AI gives hours back, then takes some of them again in checking and rework. This page finds out how many, on one workflow, in about twenty minutes.

APPLY THE CONCEPT

Step 1. Pick one workflow and one person.

Choose a workflow AI already touches, and the person on your team who uses it most. Not the next tool you're considering. The one already running.

Workflow ____________ Person ____________ Date ____________

Step 2. Ask them these three questions.

Ask, don't estimate. The gap between what a manager assumes and what the person reports is usually the whole finding.

The question	Their answer
A. Roughly how many hours a week does AI save you on this?	
B. Roughly how many hours a week go into checking and fixing its output?	
C. What have you stopped doing to make room for B?	

A hours saved minus B hours checking equals net hours actually returned ____________

For reference: across 3,200 leaders and employees surveyed by Workday in January 2026, roughly 37% of the time AI saved was going back into correcting and rewriting its output.

Step 3. Decide what to fund.

Answer C is usually the one that matters. Something gets dropped to make room for the checking, and it is almost always the work with no deadline attached. Pick one of these and put a name and a date on it.

- ☐ Protected time for the checking. Put verification on the calendar as real work rather than expecting it to fit in the gaps. Owner / date ____________
- ☐ Coaching on judgment. What to trust, what to verify closely, and when the faster path isn't worth taking. Owner / date ____________
- ☐ Somewhere to keep what's learned. So the next person doesn't pay the same tuition working it out again. Owner / date ____________

Do this on a tool you already own. Running it on something in the building costs nothing and tells you what to settle before the next purchase. Most teams find the net number is smaller than expected, and that the same one or two people are carrying it.