

February 23, 2010

Ms. Trena Heikes  
Alaska Division of Workers' Compensation  
PO Box 115512  
Juneau, AK 99811-5512

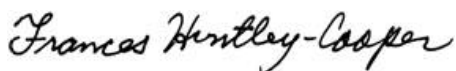
Dear Ms. Trena Heikes:

As a fellow administrator of a state workers' compensation agency, I can feel some of the pain you must be experiencing dealing with the interest group pressure and legislative concerns over high workers' compensation costs. When any state's insurance rates stand out among its peer states, it attracts stakeholder attention, and especially by employers.

Your legislature's interest in establishing a strong labor-management advisory council to help steer the course of reform of benefits and costs is an excellent approach. My state of Wisconsin is extremely proud of the track record of our advisory council in maintaining a stable and moderate cost workers' compensation system. Legislative preemption of council legislative suggestion is unheard of in Wisconsin. There are several other states with good advisory council models.

As President of the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions, I would be pleased to offer the assistance of the association staff in assisting you in evaluating the structure, organization, and scope of duties of successful councils. If you are interested in assistance, please contact our Executive Director, Gregory Krohm. You may have met Greg at the Minneapolis Convention. I am sure he will be glad to help research questions of particular interest to you, and seek out insights from our member states.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Huntley-Cooper".

Frances Huntley-Cooper  
IAIABC President