



HB 38

Abigail Caudle Act

SPONSOR: REP JOSEPHSON

STAFF: PAUL KELLY

What problems are we solving?

1. Updating Partial Impairment Rating for inflation

- ▶ Established in 1988 @ \$135,000
- ▶ Adjusted once for inflation in 2000 (17 years ago) to \$177,000

1988 – AS 23.30.190(a) repealed and re-enacted
Partial impairment rating established at **\$135,000**

2017 ?



2000 – AS 23.30.190 updated
PPI adjusted for inflation to **\$177,000**

What problems are we solving?

2. The estate of a single worker with no dependents who dies on the job has no remedy

- ▶ Cannot sue



- ▶ Cannot collect worker's compensation



- ▶ There's no legal incentive for the employer to protect these employees

What is the current law?

PPI

- ▶ Under 23.30.190(a) the PPI rating is \$177,000
 - ▶ The PPI rating is multiplied by the percentage of disability, or how much a worker's injury impacts the worker's ability to perform their job.

Deceased Workers

- ▶ Under 23.30.215(a)
 - ▶ The widow / widower and/or children get \$15,000 plus as much as 100% of the decedent's spendable weekly wages
 - ▶ If no widow / widower or children, but there are other dependent family, then they get \$10,000 plus *up to* \$20,000
 - ▶ No provision for compensating the parents or the estate if no surviving widow(er) or dependents

How do we fix it?

- ▶ Under 23.30.190(a) the PPI rating is adjusted for inflation to \$255,506
- ▶ Under 23.30.215(a)
 - ▶ The widow / widower and/or children get \$15,000 plus as much as 100% of the decedent's spendable weekly wages
 - ▶ If no widow / widower or children, but there are other dependent family, then they get \$10,000 plus *up to* \$100,000
 - ▶ If no widow, widower, or dependents, the parents get funeral expenses plus a \$70,000 lump sum. If no surviving parents, then the estate collects the lump sum.

Questions?

