

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE ANDY JOSEPHSON

Sponsor Statement

House Bill 23: Survivors' Major Medical Benefits

House Bill 23 would extend health insurance coverage to the survivors of peace officers and firefighters who die from work-related injuries.

The need for this legislation became apparent in 2014 with the tragic loss of two Alaska State Troopers in a shooting in Tanana. Though major medical benefits are available to an employee's survivors under Alaska's Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) Tier I defined benefit plan, there is a gap in coverage for all other tiers.

HB 23 extends major medical benefit coverage to the survivors of peace officers and firefighters who die in the line-of-duty regardless of the deceased member's tier status.