

Date: August 25, 2016
Resolution: 01-2016
Submitted by: Alaska AFL-CIO

TITLE: RESOLUTION CONCERNING ALASKA WORKER COMPENSATION
STATUTE IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, there are inequities in the Alaska Worker Compensation Act that adversely hurt Alaska workers and their families, and;

WHEREAS, Alaska Labor should work to protect injured workers from such inequities in our Alaska law,

THEREFORE, the Alaska AFL-CIO is committed to work for the following improvements in the Alaska Worker Compensation Act:

1. The definition of "Employer" in Section .005 (who are shielded from lawsuits from injured or killed workers) should honestly be limited to Employers only, and thus the legal loophole created in 2004 should be repealed;
2. The death benefit provided to surviving families of single workers in Section 215(a) 4, which has not been adjusted since 1968, should, at minimum, be adjusted for inflation to \$125,293.00 from the current \$20,000.00 and automatic adjustments thereafter;
3. The PPI whole person index amount for disabled workers should be adjusted for inflation to \$224,088.00 with automatic adjustments thereafter;
4. Prospective premium credits should be provided to all Employers who adopt effective Safety Programs which include regularly scheduled mandatory employee safety meetings;
5. Reinstate the 5th Edition of the AMA guidelines due to multiple problems with the 6th Edition;
6. Consider adopting the Oregon Return-to-Work Program to provide incentive to employers to rehire injured workers.

ACTIONS:

August 25th: Adopted by Legislative Committee.

August 26th: Motion to accept Resolution 1 by Tom Brice, Laborers Local 942

Seconded by Nadine Lefebvre, Juneau Central Labor Council

Adopted by Alaska AFL-CIO Convention by Unanimous Consent