

ALASKA AFL-CIO

3333 Denali Street, Suite 125 · Anchorage, Alaska 99503 · 907-258-6284

VINCE BELTRAMI
Executive President



JAKE METCALFE
Secretary / Treasurer

March 14, 2019

Honorable Andy Josephson
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Josephson:

On behalf of the Alaska AFL-CIO and our over 55 local unions and our 50,000 members we would like to thank you for introducing HB 30.

We are in strong support of the provisions included in this bill and support an update to the regulations and benefits paid to workers and their beneficiaries.

Currently, the PPI rate is woefully out of date and undervalues partial permanent impairment. This bill will increase the payment to \$255,506.

The death of Abigail Caudle revealed a glaring hole in the Workers' Compensation beneficiary statute. Abigail was killed on the job and because she had no spouse or dependents, there was no workers' compensation payout to her family. This bill would add lump sum payments to surviving parents in the event of such a workplace death.

It is terrible to be hurt on the job and face recovery. Alaska has many dangerous jobs that are part of our resource extraction industries. As a state, it is important to protect these workers and their families. Being killed on the job is, thankfully, rarer. Workers killed on the job and their families deserve justice and HB 30 is a great step to making this critical worker protection more up to date and fair.

Thank you again for introducing HB 30 and we look forward to helping ensure this bill is passed.

Vince Beltrami

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Vince Beltrami'.

Alaska AFL-CIO