

# 32<sup>ND</sup> ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE ANDY JOSEPHSON

## **Sectional Analysis for House Bill 30**

**Section 1:** Amends AS 23.10 to create a process of written notification by employers to ensure that workers are made aware of types of compensation available in the case of work related death and specifically that employees understand the lack of available death benefits for single childless workers.

**Section 2:** Increases the base amount in AS 23.30.190(a), used to calculate the compensation for permanent partial impairment, from \$177,000 (2000 amount) to \$273,000 to account for inflation and bring Alaska's compensation rate up to the national average.

**Section 3:** Amends AS 23.30 to add a new section, AS 23.30.212, requiring that in the event that a work related injury causes death, the employer is to notify the employee's personal representative of the compensation available, the statute of limitations, and where to obtain a list of legal counsel and grief counselors who may be able to assist.

**Section 4:** Updates the monetary compensation amounts for death benefits outlined in AS 23.30.215(a) to account for inflation:

- In 23.30.215(a)(1) the amount for funeral expenses changes from \$10,000 to \$12,000 (last updated in 2000).
- In 23.30.215(a)(4) the aggregate maximum amount for dependent parents or grandparents of a deceased employee changes from \$20,000 to \$150,000 (last updated in 1968).
- In 23.30.215(a)(5) the lump sum for surviving widow/widower (or children if no widow/widower) changes from \$5,000 to \$8,000 (created in 2000).

**Section 5:** Amends AS 23.30.215 to add a new subsection (j) extending death benefits payable to orphan children under AS 23.30.215(a)(2)(D) or (E) to age 23 (unless the orphan is still considered a dependent child for reason of mental or physical disability).

**Section 6:** Provides for a January 1, 2022 effective date.