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Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Finance

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SPECKING

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 375

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Fishermen's Fund; and providing
7 for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 23.35.070 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 23.35.070. BENEFITS. Subject to the limitations in sec. 140
11 of this chapter, a [A] fisherman, upon becoming disabled, is entitled
12 to receive benefits as follows: Immediately after he sustains an injury
13 or disability arising out of an accident directly connected with his
14 operations as a fisherman, either ashore in the state or in the terri-
15 torial waters of the state, or suffers an occupational disease arising
16 out of and directly connected with his operations as a fisherman,
17 either ashore in the state or in the territorial waters of the state,
18 the fisherman is entitled to emergency treatment, transportation to
19 the nearest place where approved medical facilities are available,
20 medical care and hospitalization.

21 * Sec. 2. AS 23.35.080 is amended to read:

22 Sec. 23.35.080. EMERGENCY TREATMENT FOR CARDIO-VASCULAR DISEASES.
23 Subject to the limitations in sec. 140 of this chapter, the [THE]
24 department may pay the costs [, WITHIN THE MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS,] of
25 emergency treatment, transportation, medical care and hospitalization,
26 necessitated by a cardio-vascular disease, if the department determines
27 that the disease is attributable, directly or indirectly, to the
28 fishing endeavor.

29 * Sec. 3. AS 23.35.090 is amended to read:

1 Sec. 23.35.090. ASSISTANCE AFTER DISCHARGE. Subject to the
2 limitations in sec. 140 of this chapter, a [A] fisherman is also
3 entitled to such assistance after discharge from the hospital during
4 period of convalescence as the department allows in consideration of
5 the condition of the fund.

6 * Sec. 4. AS 23.35.100 is amended to read:

7 Sec. 23.35.100. TRANSPORTATION, HOSPITAL, NURSING, MEDICAL AND
8 SURGICAL EXPENSES. Subject to the limitations in sec. 140 of this
9 chapter, the [THE] department may pay out of the fund all reasonable
10 transportation charges incurred under secs. 70, 80 and 90 of this
11 chapter, including cost of returning the fisherman to his boat, to his
12 home or to another place which reasonably meets with his convenience
13 and which is approved by the department, and the reasonable hospital,
14 nursing, medical and surgical expense incurred in his examination,
15 treatment and care.

16 * Sec. 5. AS 23.35.140 is amended to read:

17 Sec. 23.35.140. LIMITATIONS ON BENEFITS. No [(A) EXCEPT FOR
18 COMPELLING REASONS,

19 (1) NO] compensation may be paid for medical care or hos-
20 pitalization furnished before the ascertainable time of injury, or
21 before authorization in the case of disability caused by an occupational
22 disease. The [;

23 (2) THE] total allowance for any one injury, [OR] disable-
24 ment or cardio-vascular or occupational disease is \$5,000 [\$2,500].

25 [(B) THE TOTAL ALLOWANCE FOR ANY ONE HEART ATTACK IS \$2,500.]

26 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
27 070(c).
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