

HB

267

TELEGRAM

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ALASKA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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PHONE 586-7477

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BUREAU, ALASKA 99801

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ANCHORAGE ALASKA 14

REP MIKE MILLER **1986**

JUN

WE STRONGLY ENDORSE HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 208 CSB113 AND URGE
THE SENATE TO ADOPT THE SAME WE FURTHER STRONGLY
RECOMMEND YOU ADD TO THE PROVISIONS PROVIDED UNDER
LIMITATION AS 29. 33. 050 OF HOME RULE POWERS

RICHARD GAY PRESIDENT ANCHORAGE BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD
JOE MONTGOMERY SUPT ANCHORAGE BOROUGH SCHOOL DIST

208 CSB113 29 33 050.

February 11, 1971

MEMORANDUM TO:

Mr. John Elliott
Director,
Legislative Affairs Agency

FROM:

Representative Mike Miller

SUBJECT:

Proposed legislation

The Division of Sport Fisheries advises me that the widows of deceased department employees - killed in performance of "hazardous duties" - are facing exceedingly long delays in receiving the \$10,000 hazardous duty insurance to which they are qualified.

An idea to help remedy this situation by legislation would be to authorize the state to issue no-interest loans to survivors immediately after determination by the state that such survivors do indeed qualify for this insurance. The loan should be in the amount of \$10,000 and be repayable to the state immediately upon receipt of payment from the insurance company.

For background on the difficulties and delays presently being experienced, I suggest you contact Mr. Rupe Andrews, Director of the Division of Sport Fisheries.

Gene Miller advised me of one potential hazard to avoid. He says that unless the legislation was carefully worded, the payment of these monies to survivors by the state might cancel the insurance carrier's obligation to do so. I don't know if this is a big problem or not but thought you should be aware of it.

MM/kp

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File



DAWSON & CO.-MCLEAN • INSURANCE

230 SEWARD STREET, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801 TELEPHONE: 586-1530 CABLE: "MACKRIS"

March 22, 1971

The Honorable Mike Miller
Alaska State House
Chairman Local Affairs Committee
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Special Hazard Insurance
Alaska Department of Fish & Game

Dear Mike:

Since the matter of claim payments in connection with two recent accidents involving employees of the Department of Fish & Game have come to the attention of your committee, I felt it advisable to explain some of the aspects of this insurance.

Section 16.05.050 empowered the Commissioner to procure special insurance for employees "against injury or death occasioned by special hazards in connection with their duties." This \$10,000 principal amount coverage has been provided through the Underwriters at Lloyd's for the past eight years. Each year upon renewal bids are solicited from all of the major companies writing this form of insurance, but because of the special language required, none of the domestic companies have yet submitted a bid. Moreover, there have been eight death claims presented which has given the underwriting picture a rather high loss ratio.

Because of the language "in connection with their duties", one of the requirements before benefits can be paid is an establishment of the accident having occurred in connection with the employee's duties, and this can only be determined by the Alaska Workmen's Compensation Board. This usually is done promptly in accordance with the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Law, and within three months, our claim to the beneficiary gets paid, based on this determination and also after the legal beneficiary is determined, which also takes a little time.

Apparently, a question came to you in the House in connection with the deaths of Rex Thomas and Peter Winslow, who disappeared in the Arctic at the mouth of the Colville River sometime about August 16, 1969. An extensive search was made, but it was not until April 1, 1970, that death certificates were issued. Thereafter, it was not until October 6, 1970, that the Workmen's Compensation Board issued its order establishing that death was in connection with their duties, after which our insurance adjuster

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The Honorable Mike Miller
March 22, 1971
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compiled the necessary claim papers and presented the matter to the Underwriters for payments. Unfortunately, due to the mail strike in London, there was about a month's delay and payments were not received by the beneficiaries until around March 1, 1971.

The requirement for determination of employment by the Alaska Workmen's Compensation Board is important as was borne out in an airplane accident in 1967 which killed both the pilot and the passenger, both of whom were listed on the Special Hazard Policy. Claims were presented, but it turned out the Board ruled that the pilot had died from a heart attack not in connection with his employment, which in turn voided the claim so far as he was concerned.

Rest assured that as Servicing Agents for the Alaska Association of Independent Insurance Agents, we want to provide the broadest form of coverage and do everything possible to expedite the claims when presented.

Respectfully yours,

DAWSON & CO. - McLEAN
Servicing Agents
ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT
INSURANCE AGENTS, INC.

By/ 

JAM:slh

cc: All Board Members
Director, Division of Supply
Rupe Andrews - Dept. of Fish & Game