



2026.25

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF WORKERS COMPENSATION REFORM

WHEREAS, workplace injuries occur across industries and directly impact workers and their families; and,

WHEREAS, the Washington State Labor Council (WSLC) exists to advocate on behalf of its affiliated unions and members in legislative, regulatory, and judicial matters related to wages, hours, working conditions, health and safety, employment benefits including unemployment and workers' compensation, and environmental conditions affecting work, home, and community; and,

WHEREAS, many workers perform inherently hazardous duties, and injuries can result in extended periods of recovery, retraining, or permanent inability to return to work; and,

WHEREAS, despite progress in recognizing employer-provided healthcare as part of workers' compensation benefit calculations, injured workers and their families continue to experience loss of health coverage during periods of disability due to the interruption of employer contributions; and,

WHEREAS, delays in claims processing and dispute resolution, often involving third-party administrators, can prolong recovery, reduce access to benefits, and place additional financial and physical burdens on injured workers; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO (WSLC) shall develop and prioritize legislation to modernize workers' compensation benefit calculations during the 2027–2028 Washington State Legislative Biennium, including full recognition and preservation of healthcare benefits and other forms of economic security for injured workers and their families; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the WSLC shall advocate for legislation that improves timely access to benefits, strengthens protections for injured workers, and ensures a fair and functional workers' compensation system for all workers across Washington State.

7.23.26

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