

RESOLUTION NO. 44-1988

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO URGE GOVERNOR WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS TO EXERCISE ALL AVAILABLE EXECUTIVE POWERS TO BRING ABOUT CORRECTIONS IN THE STATUTES RELATING TO WORKERS COMPENSATION, AND TO URGE ALL MEMBERS OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE TO GIVE THIS MATTER THEIR PROMPT ATTENTION; FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

WHEREAS, the Senate of Texas adopted a Workers Compensation Act in 1913 to provide sure, prompt, and reasonable income to work accident victims, regardless of fault; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Workers Compensation System was intended to be a single remedy for claims arising from work-related accidents, thereby reducing court delays, costly trials, and other legal proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the Workers Compensation System is not achieving the goals for which it was designed; and

WHEREAS, a study of the system by legislative committees, private businesses, and other organizations has provided evidence that Workers Compensation premiums are too high and benefits too low; and

WHEREAS, business expansions, the location of new businesses and, in some cases, the continuation of existing businesses have been threatened by high Workers Compensation costs in Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the Mayor shall urge the Governor and the Legislature to take steps to improve the Workers Compensation Program through the elimination of lump sum settlements, elimination of Trial de Novo, strengthening of the Industrial Accident Board, and containment of medical costs as well as other steps which may be necessary.

SECTION 2. That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to urge Governor William P. Clements to exercise all available executive powers to bring about corrections in the statutes relating to Workers Compensation and, further, to urge all members of the Texas Legislature to give this matter their prompt attention.

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Adopted this 22 day of September, 1988.

ATTEST:

Patricia Hancock
CITY SECRETARY

Dale E Ferguson
MAYOR

APPROVED:

Debra P. Weinberg
CITY ATTORNEY

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