

RESOLUTION 2004-22

RESOLUTION TO URGE THE 103rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER AND ADOPT REFORMS TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAWS OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

WHEREAS, a healthy and viable business community in Tennessee is critical to the economic health of our state; and

WHEREAS, a strong and competitive business climate is the key to job creation across the state; and

WHEREAS, we support the safety, health and well-being of Tennessee's employees; and

WHEREAS, we understand that any business in Tennessee with five or more employees is required by law to have workers' compensation insurance; and

WHEREAS, we support workers' compensation as a system to assure medical treatment and income continuation to employees with work-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the insurance and the system that supports it impacts the growth of all businesses; and

WHEREAS, based on data provided to the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry by the Workers' Compensation Research Institute, state and local government officials, area economic developers, and individual businesses and manufacturers, we recognize that a crisis situation exists in Tennessee workers' compensation system; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry's November 2003 report, *A Call for Reform: Workers' Compensation in Tennessee*, correctly identifies many of the system's most serious problems and offers reasonable solutions supported by impartial, methodical research;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we support comprehensive and immediate workers' compensation reform during the 2004 session of the Tennessee General Assembly; and

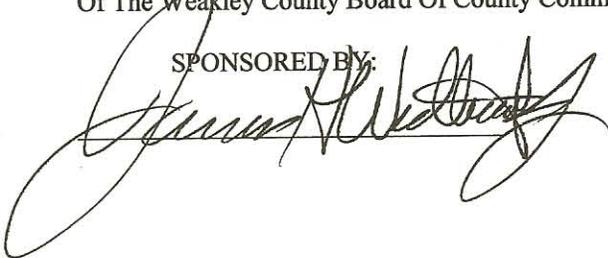
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage members of the General Assembly and the Governor to work together to enact meaningful workers' compensation reform legislation in 2004 that is endorsed by the business community, specifically, the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the county legislature body of Weakley County, Tennessee, assembled in regular session on this the 15th day of March 2004, in Dresden, Tennessee, that State Senator Roy Herron and State Representative Mark Maddox be requested to introduce and pass legislation in support of workers' compensation reform.

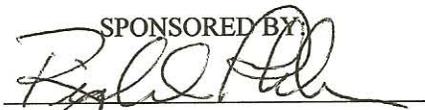
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Phil Bredesen, Senator Roy Herron, and Representative Mark Maddox.

Pursuant To The Rules Of The Commission, This Resolution Is Sponsored By The Following Members Of The Weakley County Board Of County Commissioners:

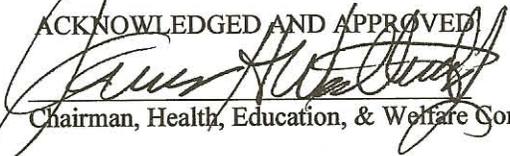
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ACKNOWLEDGED AND APPROVED:


Chairman, Health, Education, & Welfare Committee

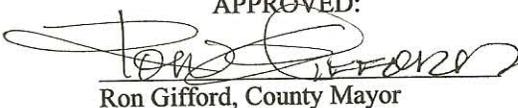
Motion made by Commissioner Vincent that the foregoing resolution be adopted:

Motion seconded by Commissioner Phebus.

Upon being put to a roll call vote, Motion carried by a vote of 15 Yeas, 0 Nays,

0 Passed and 3 Absent.

APPROVED:


Ron Gifford, County Mayor

ATTESTED:


Pat Scarbrough, County Clerk

This the 15th Day of March 2004.