



Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association

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November 29, 2010

The Honorable John Cullerton
Illinois Senate President
327 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Re: Workers' Compensation Reform

Senator Cullerton,

On behalf of the 70 producer members (and the over 3,000 employees) of the Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association I want to commend your announcement of the formation of a bipartisan committee, The Special Committee on Workers' Compensation Reform, as a first step towards the pursuit of meaningful legislation.

This is an issue of gravest concern to our membership; indeed, one that causes consternation throughout Illinois industry. While it is physically very difficult for a concrete operation to pick up and relocate outside of Illinois, we watch in alarm as developers and industrialists (our customers) decide to do so. It is past time for our legislators to act and we appreciate your leadership in recognizing the immediate need in this area.

Over the years I have heard many "horror" stories related to outrageous and illogical workers' comp judgments. I won't repeat them in this letter, but will forward them to you as members send them to me. You should, however, know that in insurance cost alone the Ready Mix advisory rate in Illinois went from 2009's \$7.88 (per \$100 of payroll) to \$9.28 in 2010. Effective 1/1/11 the rate continues to climb as it goes to \$9.69. That's over a 20% raise in just 2 years!

Senator, our industry sorely needs relief in this major cost area. We hope that your committee will concentrate on reducing workers' comp costs, on controlling judgments, on insuring against fraud, on mandating that an accident for which the injured is claiming workers' comp must have been proven to be work related, and on incorporating the American Medical Association's guidelines for disability.

Again Senator, thank you for tackling this major matter. We support your initiative and if I or any in the concrete industry in Illinois can be of service, please just contact me.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Grohne
Executive Director
Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association

"Working together to create value, teach excellence, and promote quality."