

FILED MAR 5 1997

S- 4/8/97 adopted

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY VILSACK

A Concurrent Resolution urging action by the federal government to protect workers from repetitive stress injuries.

WHEREAS, it is the public policy of this state to assure every working person in the state safe and healthful working conditions and to preserve human resources; and

WHEREAS, repetitive stress injuries, caused by workers repeatedly performing a movement that is traumatic to part of the body, are increasingly a threat to the health and safety of workers in this state and country; and

WHEREAS, repetitive stress injuries are one of the fastest growing workplace injuries in the country, costing employers more than \$20 billion for 2.73 million workers' compensation claims in 1993; and

WHEREAS, repetitive stress injuries account for one of every \$3 in employer workers' compensation costs in this country; and

WHEREAS, repetitive stress injuries are of particular concern to workers in this state because of the high incidence of such injuries to workers in the meatpacking industry; and

WHEREAS, the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration has recently announced it will address repetitive stress injuries and has named an ergonomics coordinator to head this effort; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of Iowa workers, and

S.C.R. 6

1 workers across the country, need swift action in
2 establishing safety standards to address repetitive
3 stress injuries; NOW THEREFORE,
4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the General Assembly
6 of the State of Iowa expresses its support for action
7 concerning the prevention of repetitive stress
8 injuries in the workplace and requests the United
9 States Occupational Safety and Health Administration
10 to place a high priority in fashioning workable
11 standards that will protect workers from these
12 injuries; and
13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States
14 Occupational Safety and Health Administration
15 carefully consider, in establishing standards, the
16 urgent need for the protection of workers in the
17 meatpacking industry from repetitive stress injuries;
18 and
19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States
20 Congress pass legislation, if necessary, to ensure the
21 adoption and application of standards that will
22 protect workers from repetitive stress injuries; and
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
24 resolution be sent to the United States Occupational
25 Safety and Health Administration, the President of the
26 United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
27 House of Representatives, and the members of Iowa's
28 congressional delegation.

29

30