



Vote YES on Initiative 1082

Stop L&I Tax Increases and Save Our Jobs!

NEWS RELEASE

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Study Shows I-1082 Will Improve Workers' Compensation System

Employers and employees will reap benefits

OLYMPIA—The non-partisan public policy think tank, Washington Policy Center, released a report today detailing how passage of the business community-backed Initiative 1082 will be a boon to business owners and workers in Washington State.

The study, *Citizens Guide to Initiative 1082: To Reform Workers' Compensation in Washington*, concludes that ending the state monopoly on workers' compensation and allowing competition from private insurers will "help keep premium increases in check, encourage innovation in rehabilitating injured workers, and most importantly, provide safer workplaces."

The WPC report debunks many of the myths propagated by opponents of I-1082. Contradicting their oft-repeated claim that WA is a "high benefit, low cost" workers' comp system, the study reveals that Washington is a "high benefit, high cost state system." The study also dispels the myths that if I-1082 passes small business owners will pay more, injured workers will suffer reduced benefits and insurance companies will operate unregulated.

It is further noted that the current state-run system "is on a shaky financial footing" and "punishes a business community that has produced safer workplaces over the last two decades, and has been rewarded with steadily increasing insurance rates." According to the study, I-1082, "...mitigates risk for employers, provides fair and reliable benefits for injured workers, and contributes to a stable business environment for all Washington citizens."

"This comprehensive study verifies what the vast majority of business owners in this state have been saying for a very long time—the current state-run workers' comp monopoly is not working and is in dire need of reform," said Patrick Connor, NFIB/Washington State Director, a key supporter of I-1082. "As has been proven in other states, the competition and choice I-1082 injects into the system will make Washington State a better place to live, work, and do business."

For more information on I-1082, visit www.SaveOurJobsWA.com and www.JobsNotLies.com.

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