



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution #7

Updated Saw Equipment In Alaskan Schools

Submitted by: Skyler Smith

Submitted: April 9, 2019

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:

- 1. Whereas,** statistics show over 30,000 injuries resulting from a table saw occur annually in the United States;¹
- 2. Whereas,** of the estimated 30,000, 12.4% of them involve minors in school woodshop classes;³
- 3. Whereas,** finger reattachment isn't always possible and is dependent on timing and medical staff capabilities;
- 4. Whereas,** proper care for amputation victims can't be supported by local clinics and requires transfer to either Anchorage Providence or Seattle, Washington depending on medical staff capabilities;
- 5. Whereas,** Alaska has an estimated population of 735,795 and of that 239,204 live in rural communities around the state;⁸
- 6. Whereas,** the total approximate cost of replantation surgery is over \$40,000 while amputation surgeries average over \$15,000, not including hospital stay, medication, and travel;³
- 7. Whereas,** a student in Oregon sued his school district in 2012 for more than 5 million dollars because of a lack of education about the table saw, outdated equipment and medical bills;⁵
- 8. Whereas,** a student in Washington received approximately \$70,000 after suing the school for an injury caused by a lack of education on equipment and outdated equipment in 2006;⁶
- 9. Whereas,** table saws with SawStop technology have been created to prevent injuries from occurring;²

- 10. Whereas,** by having the SawStop installed in woodshops it could prevent minors amputating appendages due to the advanced technology;²
- 11. Whereas,** a grant exists between \$10,000 and \$50,000 available to all schools in the state of Alaska that provides money for Vocational Ed class's needs;⁴
- 12. Whereas,** the Carl D. Perkins grant will *not* be cut if Governor Dunleavy's proposed budget cuts go through;⁹
- 13. Whereas,** the grant can be used to purchase the SawStop table saw and install it;⁴
- 14. Whereas,** one of the strategic priorities of the DEEDs' Alaska Education Challenge is to "Promote safety and well-being";⁷

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports Alaskan schools prioritizing the upgrade of school shop table saws to include SawStop technology in individual school's CTE budgeting processes.

Action Statement: if passed by the general assembly of AASG, will be sent to the following:

Department of Education and Early Development

801 West 10th Street, Suite 200

P.O. Box 110500

Juneau, AK 99811-0500

Office of the Governor

P.O. Box 110001

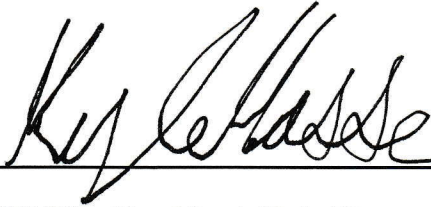
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Sources

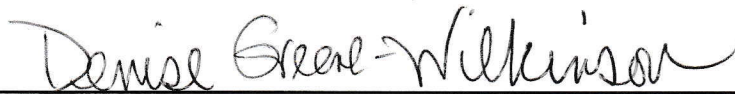
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2. Arnold, Chris, and Mollie Simon. "Despite Proven Technology, Attempts To Make Table Saws Safer Drag On." *NPR*, NPR, 10 Aug. 2017, www.npr.org/2017/08/10/542474093/despite-proven-technology-attempts-to-make-table-saws-safer-drag-on.
3. Chung, Kevin C., and Melissa J. Shauver. "Table Saw Injuries: Epidemiology and a Proposal for Preventive Measures." *Advances in Pediatrics.*, U.S. National Library of Medicine, Nov. 2013, www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4154236/.

4. Wolter, Bjørn. "Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006 Career & Technical Education." Alaska Department Of Early Education & Early Development.
5. Kent, Kandra. "Sisters Student Files Lawsuit over Saw Accident." *KTVZ*, KTVZ, 1 Sept. 2016, www.ktvz.com/news/sisters-student-files-lawsuit-over-saw-accident/68598407.
6. Lunen, Jacques Von, and Herald. "Prosser Schools Settle Injury Lawsuit." *Tri-Cityherald*, Tri-City Herald, 24 Apr. 2011, 07:58 AM, www.tri-cityherald.com/news/local/article32012784.html
7. "Alaska's Education Challenge Report." Department of Education & Early Development.
8. "Rural Health Information Hub." *Rural Health for Alaska Introduction*, www.ruralhealthinfo.org/states/alaska.
9. "Senate Passes Bill to Improve Legislation for Academic Achievement of Career and Technical Education Students | U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska." *Press Release | Press Releases | Press | U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska*, 25 July 2018, www.murkowski.senate.gov/press/release/senate-passes-bill-to-improve-legislation-for-academic-achievement-of-career-and-technical-education-students.

Passed unanimously by the 2019 Spring Conference GA at Bethel Regional High School

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Hasse", written over a horizontal line.

AASG Vice President, Kyle Hasse

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise Greene-Wilkinson", written over a horizontal line.

AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson