

the employees and I think that's been borne out in the recent news in the last few years. The thing is think of the people you know, think of your friends, and we all know somebody that will turn in an injury on the spot and not have any problem about trying to fake an injury. We all know somebody like that, but, for the most part, if you hurt your wrist or your back, a little spasm at work, you're liable not to say anything, work it out, let it go and maybe two or three days later you're all right and you went, okay, that was fine. Well, then maybe another week later something happens and it happens again but there's no significant point in time that you can point to that said, yup, that's the day it happened, that's the day it happened, but yet you know it's all work related, especially if you're lugging beef, lifting railroad ties or throwing rail, or doing other heavy work that our constituents do. And they are reluctant to turn in personal injury reports because of pride or inconvenience or fear of management or other reasons. They're reluctant to do that. So they don't build a history, necessarily and they don't have one date that they can pinpoint that that's the day my back went out or that's the day I could no longer handle a knife, I could no longer shake hands or whatever. This is a significant policy vote. You vote, in my opinion, for the honesty of the majority of the workers in this state and their ability to prove their injury is work related, or you make it harder for them to do that, you make it harder. Where the traditional definition has been, there must be a bright line that must have happened on this point. You must be able to have a specific date where there was a sharp pain and, yes, that was the day. But that is not cumulative trauma. Cumulative trauma builds up over the years.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: And some might say, well, that's just the way it is, you work, you wear out, your body is like a machine, it just wears out, and that's true. But there are specific ways to avoid it. There are specific work practices that can be done, that may cost a little...may cost a little money short term to change work styles but in the long term can save your constituents, save their bodies, and save the corporation or the company money. I would support Senator Will's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Will, you're next.