

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.73

Senators Bullock, Chang, Polehanki, Wojno, McMorrow, McCann, Hollier, Brinks, Bayer, Irwin, Geiss, Ananich and Santana offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to support the use of federal funding to provide
2 Hero pay to essential workers.

3 Whereas, Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, essential workers
4 have ensured that our society and economy were still able to
5 function. These dedicated Americans have provided incalculable
6 benefit to our state while disproportionately bearing the weight of
7 the crisis; and

8 Whereas, Essential workers have put themselves at increased
9 risk of exposure to the virus and of bringing the disease home to
10 their loved ones. This risk was often exacerbated by the lack of
11 proper personal protective equipment. Many have died after being

1 exposed to the virus at work; and

2 Whereas, It is necessary to ensure that essential workers are
3 compensated in a manner that reflects this sacrifice and their
4 importance to our society. In the United States, more than half of
5 all occupations with a median wage below \$15 per hour are essential
6 workers. While some companies have stepped in to provide Hero pay
7 to frontline employees, many have not; and

8 Whereas, The federal funding provided by the American Rescue
9 Plan Act has given our state the opportunity to fill the gap left
10 by private employers. Using federal aid to provide Hero pay to
11 essential employees will make certain that these heroes are
12 compensated; now, therefore, be it

13 Resolved by the Senate, That we support the use of federal
14 funding to provide Hero pay to essential workers; and be it further

15 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
16 Governor.