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The Connecticut Trial Lawyers support Committee Bill No. 23, AAC Employees Injured Between 1993 and 2006 and Social Security Offsets Under the Workers' Compensation Act.

This bill is a reasonable and logical extension of Public Act 06-84. Public Act 06-84 eliminated the requirement that Workers Compensation wage replacement benefits be reduced by an amount equal to the Social Security retirement benefit to which the injured worker is entitled. Public Act 06-84 took effect on or after May 30, 2006 and, thereby created a class of claimants for which the Social Security offset still applied: those claims which occurred between July 1, 1993 (when the prior law requiring the Social Security offset took effect) and May 30, 2006.

By passing Public Act 06-84, the legislature recognized that many senior citizens want to work and, more importantly, need to work past normal retirement age because Social Security benefits were not sufficient to meet their needs. To apply the offset to the few open claims occurring between 1993 and 2006 unfairly penalizes a class of claimants solely based on the date the compensable injury occurred.

PLEASE SUPPORT COMMITTEE BILL No. 23.