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**Statement from Becky Robinson, chair of the Oklahoma Injury Benefit Coalition, on the Passage
by the Oklahoma House Judiciary Committee of Senate Bill 1062**

“We applaud the members of the House Judiciary Committee that voted today to support SB1062. While we do believe that some amendments to the legislation made in the House require additional improvement, we are encouraged that we are one step closer to meaningful reform.

“Evidence is overwhelming that our state’s workers’ compensation system is failing Oklahoma. It is a drag on our state’s economy and has evolved into an adversarial system that pits the employer against workers. This is not what our workers’ compensation system was designed to do.

“Employees are a business’s greatest resource and employers want access to a system that will allow them to take care of their workers, not one that results in millions in unnecessary legal fees benefitting the very individuals that fuel the friction – trial lawyers.

“SB1062 offers the framework for a better way to take care of injured workers by offering choices, efficiencies and a free market solution to one of the worst workers’ compensation systems in the country. The bill is an important step to replacing an out-of-control system with strong protections for workers and a faster, less contentious process.

“It’s no surprise the special interests that gain financially from the current system are fighting so hard to preserve the status quo.”

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Becky Robinson is assistant vice president and risk manager for Hobby Lobby. She is chair of the Oklahoma Injury Benefit Coalition, an organization that includes Oklahoma employers united by their commitment to reforming the state’s workers’ compensation system.