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HOUSE BILL 1687

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Rayburn, McLean, Grant, Nealey, Rasmussen, Kremen, R. Johnson, Bray, Ballard, Orr and Inslee.

Read first time February 6, 1991. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Rural Development. Referred 2/7/91 to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1            AN ACT Relating to pesticide posting; amending RCW 49.70.117; and  
2    declaring an emergency.

3    BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.70.117 and 1989 c 380 s 76 are each amended to read  
5    as follows:

6            (1) If a pesticide having a reentry interval of greater than  
7    twenty-four hours is applied to a labor-intensive agricultural crop,  
8    the pesticide-treated area shall be posted with warning signs in  
9    accordance with the requirements of this section.

10           (2) When pesticide warning signs are required under this section,  
11    the employer shall post signs visible from all usual points of entry to  
12    the pesticide-treated area. If there are no usual points of entry or  
13    the area is adjacent to an unfenced public right of way, signs shall be  
14    posted (a) at each corner of the pesticide-treated area, and (b) at

1 intervals not exceeding six hundred feet, or (c) at other locations  
2 approved by the department that provide maximum visibility.

3 (3) The signs shall be posted (~~((no sooner than twenty-four hours))~~)  
4 before the (~~((scheduled))~~) application of the pesticide but not more than  
5 seven days prior to the scheduled application, remain posted during  
6 application and throughout the applicable reentry interval, and be  
7 removed within two days after the expiration of the applicable reentry  
8 interval and before employee reentry is permitted. Employees working  
9 in an area scheduled for a pesticide application shall be informed of  
10 the application and shall vacate the area to be sprayed prior to  
11 application of the pesticide.

12 (4) Signs shall be legible for the duration of use. Signs shall  
13 contain a prominent symbol approved by the department of agriculture  
14 and the department of labor and industries by rule, and wording shall  
15 be in English and Spanish or other languages as required by the  
16 department. Signs shall meet the minimum specifications of rules  
17 adopted by the department, which rules shall include, at a minimum,  
18 size and lettering requirements.

19 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
20 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
21 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
22 effect immediately.