

---

**SENATE BILL 5768**

---

**State of Washington**                      **53rd Legislature**                      **1993 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Haugen, Oke, Loveland, Nelson, Owen, Cantu and Moyer

Read first time 02/12/93. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1            AN ACT Relating to architectural and engineering inspection  
2 services at an emergency scene; adding a new section to chapter 4.24  
3 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7            (1) An architect or professional engineer who voluntarily, without  
8 compensation or expectation of compensation, except for compensation of  
9 expenses incurred directly by the architect or professional engineer  
10 performing services under this section, provides architectural and  
11 engineering inspection services at the scene of a declared national,  
12 state, or local emergency caused by a major earthquake or other  
13 emergency at the request of a public official, law enforcement officer,  
14 fire fighter, or city or county building inspector acting in an  
15 official capacity shall not be liable for any civil damages as a result  
16 of any act or omission by the architect or professional engineer's good  
17 faith inspection of a structure or building for structural integrity or  
18 nonstructural elements affecting life and safety.

1       The immunity provided by this section shall apply only for an  
2 inspection that occurs within thirty days of the earthquake.

3       Nothing in this section shall provide immunity for gross negligence  
4 or willfull misconduct.

5       (2) As used in this section:

6       (a) "Architect" means architect as defined under RCW 18.08.320.

7       (b) "Fire fighter" means fireman as defined under RCW 41.16.010.

8       (c) "Law enforcement officer" means a member of the state patrol,  
9 a sheriff or deputy sheriff, or a member of the police force of a city,  
10 town, university, or state college.

11       (d) "Professional engineer" means professional engineer as defined  
12 under RCW 18.43.020.

13       (e) "Public official" means any of the following: The governor,  
14 the chief executive of a county, city, or town, and the emergency  
15 management director of a local political subdivision appointed under  
16 chapter 38.52 RCW.

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

--- END ---