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HOUSE BILL 1684

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State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Reykdal, Manweller, Sells, and Ryu

Read first time 02/05/13. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

1            AN ACT Relating to defining suitable work to include a minimum age  
2 requirement; amending RCW 50.20.100; and creating a new section.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 50.20.100 and 2006 c 13 s 14 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) Suitable work for an individual is employment in an occupation  
7 in keeping with the individual's prior work experience, education, or  
8 training and if the individual has no prior work experience, special  
9 education, or training for employment available in the general area,  
10 then employment which the individual would have the physical and mental  
11 ability to perform. In determining whether work is suitable for an  
12 individual, the commissioner shall also consider the degree of risk  
13 involved to the individual's health, safety, and morals, the  
14 individual's physical fitness, the individual's length of unemployment  
15 and prospects for securing local work in the individual's customary  
16 occupation, the distance of the available work from the individual's  
17 residence, and such other factors as the commissioner may deem  
18 pertinent, including state and national emergencies. Work for which

1 the individual does not meet minimum age requirements required by law  
2 or regulation is not suitable work.

3 (2) For individuals with base year work experience in agricultural  
4 labor, any agricultural labor available from any employer shall be  
5 deemed suitable unless it meets conditions in RCW 50.20.110 or the  
6 commissioner finds elements of specific work opportunity unsuitable for  
7 a particular individual.

8 (3) For part-time workers as defined in RCW 50.20.119, suitable  
9 work includes suitable work under subsection (1) of this section that  
10 is for seventeen or fewer hours per week.

11 (4) For individuals who have qualified for unemployment  
12 compensation benefits under RCW 50.20.050 (1)(b)(iv) or (2)(b)(iv), as  
13 applicable, an evaluation of the suitability of the work must consider  
14 the individual's need to address the physical, psychological, legal,  
15 and other effects of domestic violence or stalking.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. If any part of this act is found to be in  
17 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to  
18 the allocation of federal funds to the state or the eligibility of  
19 employers in this state for federal unemployment tax credits, the  
20 conflicting part of this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the  
21 conflict, and the finding or determination does not affect the  
22 operation of the remainder of this act. Rules adopted under this act  
23 must meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the  
24 receipt of federal funds by the state or the granting of federal  
25 unemployment tax credits to employers in this state.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. If any provision of this act or its  
27 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
28 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
29 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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