SENATE BILL 5858

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senators Matson and Moore.

Read first time February 26, 1991. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to actions against contractors with joint
- 2 supervision and control of premises; amending RCW 51.24.030; and adding
- 3 a new section to chapter 51.24 RCW.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 Sec. 1. RCW 51.24.030 and 1987 c 212 s 1701 are each amended to
- 6 read as follows:
- 7 (1) Except as provided in section 2 of this act, if a third person,
- 8 not in a worker's same employ, is or may become liable to pay damages
- 9 on account of a worker's injury for which benefits and compensation are
- 10 provided under this title, the injured worker or beneficiary may elect
- 11 to seek damages from the third person.
- 12 (2) In every action brought under this section, the plaintiff shall
- 13 give notice to the department or self-insurer when the action is filed.
- 14 The department or self-insurer may file a notice of statutory interest
- 15 in recovery. When such notice has been filed by the department or

- 1 self-insurer, the parties shall thereafter serve copies of all notices,
- 2 motions, pleadings, and other process on the department or self-
- 3 insurer. The department or self-insurer may then intervene as a party
- 4 in the action to protect its statutory interest in recovery.
- 5 (3) For the purposes of this chapter, "injury" shall include any
- 6 physical or mental condition, disease, ailment or loss, including
- 7 death, for which compensation and benefits are paid or payable under
- 8 this title.
- 9 (4) Damages recoverable by a worker or beneficiary pursuant to the
- 10 underinsured motorist coverage of an insurance policy shall be subject
- 11 to this chapter only if the owner of the policy is the employer of the
- 12 injured worker.
- 13 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 51.24 RCW
- 14 to read as follows:
- 15 (1) An injured worker or beneficiary may not seek damages against
- 16 a person engaged in extrahazardous work done by contract if, at the
- 17 time of the injury, the contractor or the contractor's worker causing
- 18 the injury was on the premises over which the contractor had joint
- 19 supervision and control with the employer of the injured worker and the
- 20 contractor was an employer subject to this title. No person primarily
- 21 engaged in pick up or delivery of any goods, wares, or merchandise from
- 22 or to the premises of an employer other than his or her own shall be
- 23 deemed to have joint supervision or control over the premises.
- 24 (2) As used in this section, "premises" means the place where the
- 25 contractor, or the contractor's worker causing the injury, and the
- 26 employer of the injured worker are engaged in the furtherance of a
- 27 common enterprise or the accomplishment of the same or related purpose
- 28 in the operation.