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**SENATE BILL 6699**

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**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1998 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Schow, Anderson, Newhouse, Zarelli, Horn, Winsley, Stevens, Benton, Rossi, Long, Sellar and Oke

Read first time 01/27/98. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to information provided by former or current  
2 employers to a prospective employer; adding a new section to chapter  
3 4.24 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that employers are  
6 becoming increasingly discouraged from disclosing job reference  
7 information. The legislature further finds that full disclosure of  
8 such information will increase productivity and enhance the safety of  
9 the workplace.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 An employer who discloses information about a former or current  
13 employee's job performance, conduct, or other work-related information  
14 to a prospective employer, is presumed to be acting in good faith and  
15 is immune from civil liability for such disclosure or its consequences.  
16 For purposes of this section, the presumption of good faith may only be  
17 rebutted upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the

1 information disclosed by the employer was knowingly false or  
2 deliberately misleading.

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