
HOUSE BILL 2387

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Clements, B. Chandler, Radcliff, McMorris,
G. Chandler, Schindler, Benson, Lambert and D. Sommers

Read first time 01/12/2000. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to safety and health standards for work-related
2 musculoskeletal disorders; and amending RCW 49.17.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.17.040 and 1973 c 80 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the
7 director shall make, adopt, modify, and repeal rules and regulations
8 governing safety and health standards for conditions of employment as
9 authorized by this chapter after a public hearing in conformance with
10 the administrative procedure act and the provisions of this chapter.
11 At least thirty days prior to such public hearing, the director shall
12 cause public notice of such hearing to be made in newspapers of general
13 circulation in this state, of the date, time, and place of such public
14 hearing, along with a general description of the subject matter of the
15 proposed rules and information as to where copies of any rules and
16 regulations proposed for adoption may be obtained and with a
17 solicitation for recommendations in writing or suggestions for
18 inclusion or changes in such rules to be submitted not later than five
19 days prior to such public hearing. Any preexisting rules adopted by

1 the department of labor and industries relating to health and safety
2 standards in work places subject to the jurisdiction of the department
3 shall remain effective insofar as such rules are not inconsistent with
4 the provisions of this chapter.

5 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, the
6 director may not adopt rules governing safety and health standards for
7 work-related musculoskeletal disorders caused by awkward postures, high
8 hand force, repetitive motion, repeated impacts, awkward lifting,
9 vibration, or similar physical tasks.

10 (3) By July 1, 2000, the director shall adopt by rule safety and
11 health standards to reduce employee exposure to workplace hazards that
12 can cause or aggravate work-related musculoskeletal disorders,
13 including hazards caused by awkward postures, high hand force,
14 repetitive motion, repeated impacts, awkward lifting, and vibration.
15 The standards shall apply only to the department of labor and
16 industries and a state agency, to be designated by the governor, with
17 an appointed executive. The rule expires four years after the date of
18 adoption. The legislature shall not appropriate funds for the purposes
19 of implementing this subsection.

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