
HOUSE BILL 2431

State of Washington 56th Legislature 2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Clements, B. Chandler, Lisk and Pflug

Read first time 01/13/2000. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to competitive industrial insurance; adding a new
2 section to chapter 51.04 RCW; creating new sections; and providing an
3 expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The purpose of this act is to:

6 (1) Provide all employers in this state with a choice of insurance
7 carriers from whom industrial insurance may be purchased;

8 (2) Provide employers and their employees the benefits of a
9 competitive industrial insurance system;

10 (3) Provide workers the benefits of safety systems developed by
11 private enterprise, as well as those provided by government;

12 (4) Provide private industry in this state the opportunity to
13 engage in industrial insurance business, with government regulation;

14 (5) Eliminate a government monopoly with respect to choices for
15 small employers; and

16 (6) Increase the operating skills of this state's government-run
17 industrial insurance program by introducing competition into the
18 business of workers' compensation insurance.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 51.04 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 Effective January 1, 2002, employers subject to this title may
4 purchase industrial insurance coverage from any insurer holding a
5 certificate of authority under Title 48 RCW and certified by the
6 department of labor and industries to provide industrial insurance in
7 this state.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) A task force on competitive industrial
9 insurance is established to develop proposed legislation to implement
10 section 2 of this act. The task force shall report its recommendations
11 to the legislature by January 1, 2001.

12 (2) The task force shall consist of the following:

13 (a) Two members of the senate, one from each major caucus to be
14 appointed by the president of the senate;

15 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, one from each
16 major caucus to be appointed jointly by the co-speakers of the house of
17 representatives;

18 (c) A representative of employers, a representative of workers, a
19 representative of the insurance industry, a representative of the
20 Washington state bar association, and a representative of the
21 Washington state medical association, each of whom shall be appointed
22 jointly by the president of the senate and the co-speakers of the house
23 of representatives.

24 (3) Voting procedures of the task force shall include the
25 following:

26 (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, each task force
27 member shall have one vote.

28 (b) The task force may add up to three members ex officio, who
29 shall have the right to speak and make motions, but shall have no vote.

30 (c) The actions and recommendations of the task force must be
31 approved by a majority of the task force's voting members.

32 (4) The task force shall employ staff as necessary to carry out its
33 mission.

34 (5) The task force members shall receive no compensation.
35 Legislative members shall be reimbursed for their travel expenses as
36 provided in RCW 44.04.120. Other members of the task force shall be
37 reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and

1 43.03.060. All expenses of the task force, including travel, shall be
2 paid jointly by the senate and the house of representatives.
3 (6) This section expires July 1, 2001.

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