
HOUSE BILL 2830

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Alexander, DeBolt, Wolfe and Romero

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to industrial hygiene; adding a new chapter to
2 Title 18 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The purpose of this chapter is to provide
5 legal recognition to the profession of industrial hygiene, as well as
6 provide assurance to the public that individuals representing
7 themselves as being involved in the profession of industrial hygiene
8 have met minimum qualifications, thereby protecting the public from
9 harm.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
11 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

12 (1) "Industrial hygiene" means that science and art devoted to the
13 anticipation, recognition, evaluation, and control of those
14 environmental factors and stresses arising in or from the workplace
15 that may cause sickness, impaired health and well-being, or significant
16 discomfort among workers, and may also impact the general community.

1 (2) "Industrial hygienist" means a person who meets the educational
2 requirements and who demonstrates competence in practicing industrial
3 hygiene as determined under this chapter.

4 (3) "Industrial hygienist-in-training" or "IHIT" means a person who
5 has received the designation of industrial hygienist-in-training from
6 the American board of industrial hygiene, a national nonprofit
7 corporation established to improve the practice and educational
8 standards of the profession of industrial hygiene and that certifies
9 individuals who meet its education, experience, examination, and
10 maintenance requirements for practicing industrial hygiene.

11 (4) "Certified industrial hygienist" or "CIH" is a person who has
12 received the designation of certified industrial hygienist from the
13 American board of industrial hygiene, a national nonprofit corporation
14 established to improve the practice and educational standards of the
15 profession of industrial hygiene and that certifies individuals who
16 meet its education, experience, examination, and maintenance
17 requirements for practicing industrial hygiene.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) No person may represent himself or
19 herself as an industrial hygienist without first:

20 (a) Completing a baccalaureate or graduate degree from an
21 accredited college or university using a curriculum in industrial
22 hygiene, biology, chemistry, engineering, physics, or a closely related
23 physical or biological science; and

24 (b) Demonstrating through experience and training, the ability:

25 (i) To anticipate and recognize workplace environmental factors and
26 stresses such as chemical, physical, biological, or ergonomic, and to
27 understand their effects on people, and their well-being;

28 (ii) To evaluate, through observation, sampling, and testing, the
29 magnitude of these factors and stresses; and

30 (iii) To prescribe methods to prevent, eliminate, control, or
31 reduce such factors and stresses, and their effects; or

32 (c) Being certified by a national nonprofit corporation established
33 to improve the practice and educational standards of the profession of
34 industrial hygiene and that certifies individuals who meet its
35 education, experience, examination, and maintenance requirements.

36 (2) A person represents himself or herself as an industrial
37 hygienist when the person adopts or uses any title or description of
38 services that incorporates one or more of the following terms:

1 Industrial hygienist, industrial hygienist-in-training, IHIT, certified
2 industrial hygienist, or CIH.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A person meeting the requirements of section
4 3 of this act or a nonprofit corporation established to improve the
5 practice and educational standards of the profession of industrial
6 hygiene through certifying individuals who meet its education,
7 experience, examination, and maintenance requirements may bring a
8 private cause of action in the appropriate court to recover actual
9 damages or one thousand dollars, whichever is greater, against any
10 person who violates section 3 of this act.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Nothing in this chapter prohibits or
12 restricts:

13 (1) The practice of industrial hygiene by a person employed as an
14 apprentice under the supervision of an industrial hygienist;

15 (2) A student studying industrial hygiene engaging in supervised
16 activities related to industrial hygiene;

17 (3) Any person legally regulated in this state under any other
18 licensing act or regulation from engaging in the activities permitted
19 under his or her license, provided he or she does not represent himself
20 or herself to the public as an industrial hygienist; or

21 (4) Individuals practicing within the scope of the meaning of
22 industrial hygiene, so long as the individual does not use the title,
23 initials, or represent themselves to the public as an industrial
24 hygienist.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute
26 a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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