
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2686

State of Washington

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By House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology (originally sponsored by Representatives Hunt, Rockefeller, Linville, Dunshee, Kirby, Sullivan, Upthegrove, Chase, Campbell, Romero, Lantz, Wood, Simpson and Kagi)

Read first time 02/08/2002. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to mercury reduction and education; adding a new
2 chapter to Title 70 RCW; creating a new section; prescribing penalties;
3 providing effective dates; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

7 (1) "Automotive mercury switch" includes a convenience switch, such
8 as a switch for a trunk or hood light, and a mercury switch in antilock
9 brake systems.

10 (2) "Dental amalgam" means a mixture of mercury, and an alloy of
11 silver, tin, and copper, used in dentistry.

12 (3) "Department" means the department of ecology.

13 (4) "Director" means the director of the department of ecology.

14 (5) "Health care facility" means a hospital, nursing home, extended
15 care facility, long-term care facility, clinical or medical laboratory,
16 state or private health or mental institution, clinic, physician's
17 office, or health maintenance organization.

18 (6) "Manufacturer" means any person, firm, association,
19 partnership, corporation, governmental entity, organization, or joint

1 venture that produces a mercury-added product or an importer or
2 domestic distributor of a mercury-added product produced in a foreign
3 country. In the case of a multicomponent product containing mercury,
4 the manufacturer is the last manufacturer to produce or assemble the
5 product. If the multicomponent product or mercury-added product is
6 produced in a foreign country, the manufacturer is the importer or
7 domestic distributor.

8 (7) "Mercury manometer" means a mercury-added product that is used
9 for measuring blood pressure.

10 (8) "Mercury thermometer" means a mercury-added product that is
11 used for measuring temperature.

12 (9) "Mercury-added button cell battery" means a button cell battery
13 to which the manufacturer intentionally introduces mercury for the
14 operation of the battery.

15 (10) "Mercury-added novelty" means a mercury-added product intended
16 mainly for personal or household enjoyment or adornment. Mercury-added
17 novelties include, but are not limited to, items intended for use as
18 practical jokes, figurines, adornments, toys, games, cards, ornaments,
19 yard statues and figures, candles, jewelry, holiday decorations, items
20 of apparel, and other similar products.

21 (11) "Mercury-added product" means a product, commodity, or
22 chemical, or a product with a component that contains mercury or a
23 mercury compound intentionally added to the product, commodity, or
24 chemical in order to provide a specific characteristic, appearance, or
25 quality, or to perform a specific function, or for any other reason.
26 Mercury-added products include, but are not limited to, mercury
27 thermometers, mercury thermostats, and mercury switches in motor
28 vehicles.

29 (12) "Retailer" means a retailer of a mercury-added product.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Nothing in this chapter applies to
31 prescription drugs regulated by the food and drug administration under
32 the federal food, drug, and cosmetic act (21 U.S.C. Sec. 301 et seq.),
33 to biological products regulated by the food and drug administration
34 under the public health service act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 262 et seq.), to
35 any substance that may be lawfully sold over-the-counter without a
36 prescription under the federal food, drug, and cosmetic act (21 U.S.C.
37 Sec. 301 et seq.), or to dental amalgam.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) No later than one year after the
2 effective date of this section, every manufacturer of thermometers and
3 commercial or residential, but not industrial, thermostats that contain
4 mercury and that have been or may be offered for sale or distributed
5 for sale or use in this state must ensure that these products are
6 properly collected, transported, and recycled by doing one of the
7 following:

8 (a) Establishing and funding, directly or with the help of a third
9 party, a collection system through which the used products can be
10 returned for recycling or disposed of as hazardous waste; or

11 (b) Identifying and funding existing collection systems through
12 which the used products can be returned for recycling or disposed of as
13 hazardous waste.

14 (2) Every manufacturer of mercury thermometers and commercial or
15 residential thermostats containing mercury is financially responsible
16 for the collection and recycling systems established under subsection
17 (1) of this section. All collection and recycling must be conducted in
18 a manner that prevents the release of mercury into the environment.
19 All collection and recycling systems are subject to department
20 approval.

21 (3) The collection system plan must include:

22 (a) A public education program to inform the public about the
23 purpose of the collection program and how to participate in it;

24 (b) A targeted capture rate for products;

25 (c) A plan for implementing and financing the collection system;

26 (d) Documentation of the willingness of all necessary parties to
27 implement the proposed collection system;

28 (e) A description of performance measures to be utilized and
29 reported by the manufacturer of thermometers and commercial or
30 residential thermostats to demonstrate that the collection system is
31 meeting rate targets and other measures of program effectiveness as
32 required by the department; and

33 (f) A description of additional or alternative actions that will be
34 implemented to improve the collection system and its operation in the
35 event that the program targets are not met.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) No mercury-added product manufactured
37 after the effective date of this section may be sold, offered for final
38 sale, or distributed for sale or use in the state unless both the

1 product and its packaging are labeled in accordance with this section
2 and any adopted rules. This requirement may be met by compliance with
3 the terms of any approved alternative labeling or notification granted
4 under subsection (7) of this section. A retailer may not be found in
5 violation of this subsection if the retailer lacked knowledge that the
6 product contained mercury.

7 (2) If a mercury-added product is a component of another product,
8 the product containing the component and the component must both be
9 labeled. The label on a product containing a mercury-added component
10 must identify the component with sufficient detail so that it may be
11 readily located for removal.

12 (3) All labels must be clearly visible prior to sale, and must
13 inform the purchaser, using words or symbols, that mercury is present
14 in the product, and that the product should not be disposed of or
15 placed in a waste stream destined for disposal until the mercury is
16 removed and reused, recycled, or otherwise managed to ensure that the
17 mercury in the product does not become mixed with other solid waste or
18 wastewater.

19 (4) Labels affixed to the product must be constructed of materials
20 that are sufficiently durable to remain legible for the useful life of
21 the product.

22 (5) Responsibility for product and package labels required under
23 this section is on the manufacturer, and not on the wholesaler or
24 retailer, unless the wholesaler or retailer agrees with the
25 manufacturer to accept responsibility in conjunction with
26 implementation of an alternative to the labeling requirements of this
27 section, approved under subsection (7) or (8) of this section. In the
28 case of a multicomponent product, the responsible manufacturer is the
29 last manufacturer to produce or assemble the product. In the case of
30 a mercury-added product imported from a foreign country, the importer
31 must ensure that the manufacturer has complied with this section before
32 sale, use, or distribution of the products in this state. This
33 importer requirement does not apply to retailers for whom importing is
34 not their primary business.

35 (6) Any mercury-added product for which federal law governs
36 labeling in a manner that preempts state authority is exempt from the
37 requirements of this section.

38 (7) Alternative methods of public notification are as follows:

1 (a) A manufacturer may apply to the department for an alternative
2 to the requirements of subsections (1) through (6) and (8) of this
3 section where: Strict compliance with the requirements is not
4 feasible; or the proposed alternative would be at least as effective in
5 providing presale notification of mercury content and in providing
6 instructions on proper disposal; or federal law governs labeling in a
7 manner that preempts state authority. The department may approve an
8 alternative concerning a certain product category without application
9 by manufacturers, but must consider other alternatives for the
10 category, upon application.

11 (b) Applications for an alternative to the requirements of
12 subsections (1) through (6) and (8) of this section must:

13 (i) Document the justification for the requested alternative;

14 (ii) Describe how the alternative ensures that purchasers or
15 recipients of mercury-added products are made aware of mercury content
16 prior to purchase or receipt;

17 (iii) Describe how a person discarding the product will be made
18 aware of the need for proper handling to ensure that it does not become
19 part of solid waste or wastewater;

20 (iv) Document the readiness of all necessary parties to implement
21 the proposed alternative; and

22 (v) Describe the performance measures to be utilized by the
23 manufacturer to demonstrate that the alternative is providing effective
24 presale notification and predisposal notification.

25 (c) The department may grant, deny, or approve with modifications
26 or conditions a request for an alternative to the requirements of
27 subsections (1) through (6) and (8) of this section. Such an approval
28 of an alternative shall be for an indefinite period of no less than two
29 years. The department may review alternatives and modify or condition
30 a previously approved alternative, after providing notice to the
31 affected parties. Modifications must be implemented according to a
32 mutually agreeable time frame that may not exceed two years. Prior to
33 approving an alternative, the department must consult with neighboring
34 states, provinces, and regional organizations to ensure that its
35 labeling requirements are consistent with those of other governments in
36 the region.

37 (8) The following alternative methods of public notification for
38 specific products are approved, and no further department approval is
39 required:

1 (a) Labeling of white goods sold in a store where the white goods
2 are on display meets all requirements of subsections (1) through (6) of
3 this section, except that no package labeling is required.

4 (b) Labeling of fever and laboratory thermometers must meet all
5 requirements of subsections (1) through (6) of this section, except
6 that no product labeling is required.

7 (c) Labeling of all new motor vehicles must meet all the
8 requirements of subsections (1) through (6) of this section, except
9 that the mercury-added components are not required to be labeled. A
10 doorpost label applied by the manufacturer must list the mercury-added
11 components that may be present on the vehicle. Only in the case of a
12 dealer trade of a new vehicle with a dealer in another state is the
13 motor vehicle dealer responsible for applying the doorpost label to the
14 vehicle to be offered for sale in this state. No labeling of used
15 motor vehicles is required.

16 (d) Labeling of mercury-added button cell batteries must meet all
17 requirements of subsections (1) through (6) of this section, except no
18 labeling is required on the product. Labeling of products that contain
19 a mercury-added button cell battery as the only mercury-added component
20 must include in the product instructions, if any, and on the product
21 packaging the information required in subsection (3) of this section.

22 (e) Labeling of consumer electronics that incorporate one or more
23 mercury-added lamps as their only mercury-added component or components
24 must meet all the requirements of subsection (1) through (6) of this
25 section, except no labeling of an internal lamp or the package is
26 required.

27 (9) The department may adopt rules to implement this section. The
28 rules may include a requirement to submit for approval a certified
29 labeling plan that describes the product and all aspects of its
30 proposed labeling. The department must make efforts to ensure
31 consistency, when practicable and appropriate, with the labeling
32 requirements that are in use in other states.

33 (10) The department must work with manufacturers to ensure that
34 compliance with this section is achieved in a manner that considers the
35 cost and feasibility of implementation.

36 (11) Commercial aircraft and aerospace components are exempt from
37 the requirements of this section.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) A person may not knowingly dispose of
2 mercury-added products in any manner other than by recycling the
3 product or disposing of the product as hazardous waste.

4 (2) When a mercury-added product is removed from service, the
5 mercury in the item must be source-separated for reuse or recycling,
6 stabilized for retirement, or otherwise managed to prevent its release
7 into the environment.

8 (3) A person may not knowingly send a multicomponent product
9 containing a mercury-added product, that has been intentionally
10 flattened, crushed, or baled, to a scrap processor, as defined in RCW
11 46.79.010, for recycling without first removing the mercury-added
12 product. A scrap processor may accept a multicomponent product,
13 knowing it contains a mercury-added product, if the processor takes
14 responsibility for removing the mercury-added product. This subsection
15 (3) does not apply to individuals disposing of mercury-added household
16 products.

17 (4) A person engaging in solid waste handling, including solid
18 waste storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization,
19 processing, incineration, and final disposal of solid wastes, may not
20 knowingly collect or accept for disposal solid waste that contains one
21 or more mercury-added products, unless the waste is collected at a
22 permitted household hazardous waste collection facility for the purpose
23 of recycling the household hazardous waste. A solid waste collector or
24 transporter will not be deemed to have knowingly accepted mercury-added
25 products if the solid waste collector or transporter has provided
26 notification to customers that it is illegal to dispose of mercury-
27 added products in solid waste containers, and if no mercury-added
28 products are clearly visible and easily identifiable in the container.
29 A solid waste treatment, processing, incineration, or disposal facility
30 will not be deemed to have knowingly accepted a mercury-added product
31 for processing or disposal if the facility has implemented the
32 following:

33 (a) Posted signs at the solid waste management facility providing
34 notice of the prohibition of the disposal and incineration of mercury-
35 added products; and

36 (b) Provided written notification to or have contractual agreements
37 with the solid waste management facility's customers, providing notice
38 of the prohibition of the disposal and incineration of mercury-added
39 products.

1 (5) For the purposes of this section a person acts knowingly when:

2 (a) The person is aware of a fact, facts, or circumstances or
3 result described by a statute defining a prohibited act; or

4 (b) The person has information that would lead a reasonable person
5 in the same situation to believe that the existing facts are the facts
6 described by a statute defining a prohibited act.

7 (6) A manufacturer of thermometers or commercial or residential
8 thermostats that has complied with the requirements of section 3 of
9 this act is not liable for improper disposal of those products by
10 purchasers or consumers.

11 (7) Every two years the department must make available to the
12 public information concerning the amount of mercury diverted from the
13 solid waste stream that would otherwise be sent to solid waste
14 management facilities for disposal or incineration.

15 (8) Those persons involved in the recycling, dismantling, or hulk
16 hauling of motor vehicles are exempt from this section. The department
17 shall assemble an advisory committee of parties concerned with and
18 involved in the recycling and waste disposal of motor vehicles to make
19 recommendations on the reduction and removal of mercury components from
20 the waste stream caused by the scrapping and dismantling of motor
21 vehicles. With the help of the advisory committee, the department
22 shall prepare recommendations to the legislature on how mercury
23 components may be reduced or eliminated from motor vehicle scrap, how
24 this will occur, and at what stage of the vehicle's life, as well as
25 the liable parties. The department's recommendations shall be
26 presented to the legislature no later than January 1, 2004.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) Except as provided under subsections (2)
28 through (4) of this section, no person may sell, offer for sale,
29 distribute for sale or use in this state a mercury-added product unless
30 the manufacturer of the product, or its industry trade group, provides
31 notice to the director in writing of the manufacturer's intent to sell,
32 offer for sale, or distribute the product. The notification must
33 include: (a) A description of the product to be offered for sale, use,
34 or distribution; (b) the amount of and purpose for mercury in each unit
35 of the product; (c) the total amount of mercury contained in all
36 products manufactured by the manufacturer; and (d) the name and address
37 of the manufacturer and of a contact. The manufacturer must update and
38 revise the information provided in each notification whenever there is

1 significant change in the information or when requested by the
2 director. The director may by rule define and adopt specific
3 requirements for the content and submission of the notification.

4 (2) With the approval of the director, the manufacturer may supply
5 the notice required under subsection (1) of this section for a product
6 category rather than an individual product.

7 (3) Any mercury-added product for which federal law governs notice
8 in a manner that preempts state authority is exempt from the
9 requirements of this section.

10 (4) Commercial aircraft and aerospace components are exempt from
11 the requirements of this section.

12 (5) The director must review the information received under
13 subsection (1) of this section and must ensure that the information is
14 available for public inspection upon request.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) No person may sell, offer for sale, or
16 distribute for sale or use in this state a mercury-added novelty. A
17 manufacturer of mercury-added novelties must notify all retailers that
18 sell the product about the provisions of this section and how to
19 properly dispose of any remaining mercury-added novelty inventory.

20 (2)(a) No person may sell, offer for sale, or distribute for sale
21 or use in this state a thermometer that contains mercury. This
22 subsection (2) does not apply to:

23 (i) An electronic thermometer with a button cell battery containing
24 mercury if the battery is in compliance with section 3 of this act;

25 (ii) A thermometer that contains mercury and that is used for food
26 research and development or food processing, including meat, dairy
27 products, and pet food processing;

28 (iii) A thermometer that contains mercury and that is a component
29 of an animal agriculture climate control system or industrial
30 measurement system until such a time as the system is replaced or a
31 nonmercury component for the system is available; and

32 (iv) A thermometer that contains mercury that is used for
33 calibration of other thermometers, apparatus, or equipment, unless a
34 nonmercury calibration standard is approved for the application by the
35 national institute of standards and technology.

36 (b) A manufacturer of thermometers that contain mercury must notify
37 all retailers that sell the product about the provisions of this

1 section and how to properly dispose of any remaining thermometer
2 inventory.

3 (3) No person may sell, install, or reinstall a commercial or
4 residential thermostat that contains mercury. A manufacturer of
5 commercial or residential thermostats that contain mercury must notify
6 all retailers that sell the product about the provisions of this
7 section and how to properly dispose of any remaining commercial or
8 residential thermostat inventory.

9 (4) No person may sell, offer for sale, or distribute for sale or
10 use in this state a motor vehicle manufactured after January 1, 2006,
11 if the motor vehicle contains an automotive mercury switch.

12 (5) A health care facility may not purchase mercury manometers.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** No school may purchase for use in a primary
14 or secondary classroom bulk elemental or chemical mercury or bulk
15 mercury compounds. Manufacturers that produce and sell bulk elemental
16 or chemical mercury or mercury compounds must notify retailers and
17 schools about the provisions of this section and how to dispose of the
18 remaining inventory properly.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** (1) No later than January 1, 2003, the
20 department, in consultation with the Washington hospital association
21 and other interested and affected parties, must develop the following
22 plans for mercury purchase and use at health care facilities:

23 (a) A mercury elimination plan for thermometers, thermostats,
24 manometers, and other mercury-added products for which alternatives are
25 available; and

26 (b) A mercury reduction plan for lab reagents, lights, batteries,
27 and other mercury-added products for which alternatives are not
28 available.

29 (2) For the purposes of this section, "health care facility" does
30 not include a clinic, physician's office, dentist's office,
31 veterinarian's office, or a clinic, physician's office, or dentist's
32 office located within a health maintenance organization.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) The department must develop a plan and
34 proposed budget for a comprehensive public education, outreach, and
35 assistance program for households, hazardous waste generators,
36 municipalities, solid waste management districts, small businesses,

1 health care facilities, scrap metal facilities, dismantlers,
2 institutions of higher education, schools, and other interested groups.
3 The plan must: (a) Focus on the hazards of mercury, particularly those
4 associated with the consumption of mercury-contaminated fresh and
5 saltwater fish, the requirements and obligations of individuals,
6 manufacturers, and agencies under this chapter, and voluntary efforts
7 that individuals, institutions, and businesses can undertake to help
8 further reduce mercury in the environment; (b) include a mechanism for
9 providing information to retailers, wholesalers, and the public on
10 which products are mercury-added products and information on possible
11 nonmercury alternatives; (c) include a description of how manufacturers
12 of mercury-added products and other affected businesses will be
13 involved in the development and implementation of a public education
14 and technical assistance program; (d) describe how the program will
15 assist the municipalities and solid waste management districts in
16 developing, designing, and disseminating information for the public
17 about labeled mercury-added products, the requirements of section 3 of
18 this act regarding the source separation of waste mercury-added
19 products, and the collection programs that are available to the public
20 under section 3 of this act; and (e) describe how the program will be
21 directed specifically at large public and private institutions that use
22 and discard substantial numbers of waste mercury-added products, and at
23 any other large users of those products. The plan and proposed budget
24 must be submitted to the governor and the legislature by January 1,
25 2003.

26 (2) The department may develop an awards program to recognize the
27 accomplishments of manufacturers, municipalities, solid waste
28 management facilities, solid waste recycling facilities, household
29 hazardous waste collection facilities, citizens, or entities that go
30 beyond the minimum requirements established under this chapter and
31 excel at reducing or eliminating mercury in air emissions, solid waste,
32 and wastewater discharges.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** (1) The department of general
34 administration must, by July 1, 2003, revise its rules, policies, and
35 guidelines to implement the purpose of this chapter.

36 (2) The department of general administration must give priority and
37 preference to the purchase of equipment, supplies, and other products
38 that contain no mercury-added compounds or components, unless: (a)

1 There is no economically feasible nonmercury-added alternative that
2 performs a similar function; or (b) the product containing mercury is
3 designed to reduce electricity consumption by at least forty percent
4 and there is no nonmercury or lower mercury alternative available that
5 saves the same or a greater amount of electricity as the exempted
6 product. In circumstances where a nonmercury-added product is not
7 available, preference must be given to the purchase of products that
8 contain the least amount of mercury added to the product necessary for
9 the required performance and that are not prohibited from sale or
10 distribution under section 6 of this act.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The department must review the
12 effectiveness of this chapter and provide a report based upon that
13 review to the governor and the appropriate legislative committees by
14 December 1, 2006. The report must review the effectiveness of the
15 programs required under this chapter and recommend ways to improve the
16 programs.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** A violation of this chapter or any rule
18 adopted under this chapter is punishable by a civil penalty not to
19 exceed one thousand dollars for each violation in the case of a first
20 violation. Repeat violators are liable for a civil penalty not to
21 exceed five thousand dollars for each repeat violation. Penalties
22 collected under this section must be deposited in the state toxics
23 control account created under RCW 70.105D.070.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** The department is authorized to participate
25 in a regional or multistate clearinghouse to assist in carrying out any
26 of the requirements of this chapter. A clearinghouse may also be used
27 for coordinating notification and label requirements, developing
28 education and outreach activities, and maintaining a list of all
29 mercury-added products, including mercury-added products and novelties
30 that may be subject to the product ban contained in section 7 of this
31 act.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** The department must adopt rules to
33 implement and enforce this chapter.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** (1) The department must develop a planned
2 strategy for the elimination of mercury from the environment. This
3 strategy will be known as the mercury chemical action plan. The
4 development of the mercury chemical action plan will be a model for how
5 all future chemical action plans will be developed.

6 (2) The mercury chemical action plan must include, but is not
7 limited to: (a) Identifying current mercury uses in Washington; (b)
8 analyzing current state and federal laws, regulations, rules, and
9 voluntary measures that can be used to reduce or eliminate mercury; (c)
10 identifying mercury reduction and elimination options; and (d)
11 implementing actions to reduce or eliminate mercury uses and releases.

12 (3) In developing the mercury chemical action plan, the department
13 must involve an advisory committee not to exceed twelve members
14 composed of adequate and balanced representation of local government,
15 business, agriculture, and environmental, public health, and community
16 groups. In addition, the department must invite and strongly encourage
17 any interested tribes or federal agencies to participate in the
18 advisory committee process. The advisory committee must be involved in
19 the development of the mercury chemical action plan. All information
20 that will serve as the basis for any decisions in the mercury chemical
21 action plan's development must be available to the advisory committee
22 members. The advisory committee has sixty days to provide input to the
23 department on the elements of the mercury chemical action plan. The
24 comments and suggestions made by the advisory committee must be
25 considered by the department; however, consensus of the advisory
26 committee is not necessary for the department to move forward in the
27 development of the mercury chemical action plan. All meetings of the
28 advisory committee are subject to the provisions of chapter 42.30 RCW.
29 The advisory committee for the mercury chemical action plan must be
30 established by April 15, 2002.

31 (4) By June 30, 2002, the department must develop and issue a draft
32 mercury chemical action plan in consultation with the advisory
33 committee. Following the release of the draft plan, the department
34 must allow for a sixty-day public comment period. The department must
35 reconvene the advisory committee following the comment period to
36 consider the public comments received.

37 (5) The final mercury chemical action plan, developed after
38 considering the public comments and the input of the advisory
39 committee, must outline actions for the department to take, including,

1 but not limited to the development of any rules that are within the
2 department's authority and recommending any legislation.

3 (6) The mercury chemical action plan must be finalized by December
4 1, 2002, and implementation must begin no later than January 1, 2003.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** Any fiscal impact on the department of
6 ecology that results from the implementation of this act shall be paid
7 for out of existing funds previously appropriated out of the state
8 toxics control account for the implementation of the department's
9 persistent, bioaccumulative toxic chemical strategy.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** (1) Sections 1, 2, and 9 through 15 of this
11 act take effect July 1, 2002.

12 (2) Sections 3 through 8 of this act take effect January 1, 2003.

13 (3) Section 16 of this act is necessary for the immediate
14 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
15 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
16 immediately.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 19.** Sections 1 through 16 and 18 of this act
18 constitute a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

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