
SENATE BILL 5890

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Swecker, Rasmussen and Parlette

Read first time 02/18/2003. Referred to Committee on Agriculture.

1 AN ACT Relating to a pilot project by the department of labor and
2 industries to determine the feasibility and benefits for medical
3 monitoring of agricultural workers; adding a new section to chapter
4 17.21 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that: The state's
7 highly productive and efficient agriculture sector is composed
8 predominately of family owned and managed farms and an industrious and
9 efficient work force; the supreme court has directed the department of
10 labor and industries to initiate rule making regarding routine
11 monitoring of agriculture workers who are exposed to certain
12 pesticides. It is the intent of this act to guarantee that the safety
13 and health of workers is protected, and this can best be accomplished
14 through pilot project rule making to determine whether mandatory
15 medical monitoring is beneficial to workers and feasible considering
16 all of the technical requirements of such a regulation.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 17.21 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 (1) The department of labor and industries shall initiate a pilot
2 rule project, in accordance with RCW 34.05.313, to determine whether
3 mandatory medical monitoring for class one and class two
4 organophosphate and carbamate pesticides is necessary to insure worker
5 safety. The pilot project shall be completed by December 31, 2005.

6 (2) In accordance with RCW 34.05.350, the department of labor and
7 industries may adopt emergency rules necessary to protect the health
8 and safety of farmworkers.

9 (3) Funding for this pilot project will be obtained from the
10 industrial insurance medical aid and accident funds as defined in
11 chapter 51.44 RCW.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
14 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
15 immediately.

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