

3134

Sponsor(s): Representatives Schoesler, Armstrong, Ahern, Crouse, Holmquist, Ericksen, McMahan, Clements, McMorris and Condotta

Brief Description: Requiring use of the occupational safety and health act.

**HB 3134 - DIGEST**

Makes the following findings: (1) Fewer than half of the states in the United States operate job safety and health programs under section eighteen of the occupational safety and health act;

(2) Fewer than half of the employees in the Washington industrial safety and health act services division at the department of labor and industries actually conduct workplace safety inspections;

(3) Washington's workplaces are no safer than states that rely exclusively on the occupational safety and health administration to conduct workplace safety inspections; and

(4) More than thirty million dollars annually in workers' compensation funds are used to pay for this unnecessary program.

Declares that the purpose of this act is to no longer administer Washington's state plan under section eighteen of the occupational safety and health act until the occupational safety and health act is repealed.

Provides that, in the 2005 legislative session, the legislature must pass a joint memorial that petitions congress for amendments to the federal occupational safety and health act. The amendments should extend the scope of the occupational safety and health act to include public employees.