
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1886

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By House Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Simpson, B. Sullivan and Chase)

READ FIRST TIME 03/04/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to reducing the environmental impact of cleaning in
2 state facilities; adding a new chapter to Title 70 RCW; and declaring
3 an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that cleaning products
6 are necessary for creating and maintaining sanitary conditions in state
7 facilities and workplaces. However, chemicals contained in cleaning
8 products can be released to the environment during normal use by
9 evaporation of volatile components or by leaving residue on cleaned
10 surfaces. Choosing less hazardous cleaning products for use in our
11 workplaces and our facilities and taking steps to reduce exposure can
12 minimize harmful impacts to office and custodial workers, improve
13 indoor air quality, and reduce water and ambient air pollution.
14 Purchasing and appropriate use of products that perform well and that
15 have positive environmental attributes such as biodegradability, low
16 toxicity, low volatile organic compound content, reduced packaging, and
17 low life cycle energy use can reduce the environmental impact of
18 routine cleaning activities while also ensuring cleaning effectiveness.
19 Therefore, the legislature finds that the adoption of practices to

1 select, procure, and use environmentally preferred products will
2 benefit the environment and the health and safety of workers and
3 visitors to state facilities.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) All state agencies shall procure and use
5 cleaning products having properties that minimize potential impacts to
6 human health and the environment consistent with maintenance of the
7 effectiveness of these products for the protection of public health and
8 safety. For purposes of this act, "state agency" means any office,
9 department, division, bureau, board, commission, or other agency of the
10 state of Washington or of any subdivision thereof.

11 (2) The department of general administration, in consultation with
12 the department of health and the department of ecology, shall provide
13 consultation and guidance to state agencies to:

14 (a) Select and procure products and use practices that reduce or
15 minimize the risks of harmful effects to employees, custodial workers,
16 visitors, and other building occupants and to the environment;

17 (b) Promote adoption of practices endorsed by this chapter;

18 (c) Recognize state agencies that adopt and implement
19 environmentally beneficial facility and workplace management policies
20 and practices;

21 (d) Encourage contractors supplying goods and services to state
22 agencies to select and procure such products; and

23 (e) Encourage lessors and building managers who provide leased
24 space to state agencies to select and procure such products.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) When procuring cleaning products, state
26 agencies shall purchase environmentally preferred products or document
27 the reasons for selecting alternative products. Such products shall
28 conform to guidance for environmentally preferred purchasing of
29 cleaning products that may be provided under section 2 of this act, or
30 shall be products that have been identified by the department of
31 general administration as compliant with this chapter and made
32 available through a central purchasing contract.

33 (2) A state agency that procures or uses alternative products shall
34 prepare a report listing those products, including the reasons for the
35 selection, and submit the report electronically to the department of
36 general administration biennially. The report shall be available to

1 employees and the general public on the department of general
2 administration's web site. A state agency that procured and used only
3 environmentally preferred cleaning products during the biennium is not
4 required to submit the report.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Local governments and school districts are
6 encouraged to review their purchasing and use of cleaning products and
7 select those having properties that minimize potential impacts to human
8 health and the environment consistent with section 2 of this act. The
9 department of general administration shall encourage local governments
10 and school districts that are members of the department of general
11 administration's state purchasing cooperative to achieve the goals of
12 this chapter.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** State agencies shall transition to cleaning
14 products having properties that minimize potential impacts to human
15 health and the environment within six months of the effective date of
16 this act in a manner that avoids waste of existing inventories,
17 accommodates establishment of supply chains for new products, enables
18 the training of personnel in appropriate work practices, and allows the
19 phase out of products and practices inconsistent with this chapter.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate
21 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
22 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
23 immediately.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act constitute
25 a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

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