
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6363

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Keiser, Benson, Franklin, Poulsen, Thibaudeau, Kline and Parlette)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to developing worksite health promotion programs;
2 adding a new section to chapter 41.05 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) Washington state employers incur significant costs stemming
6 from the poor health of some of their employees. Costs come in the
7 form of increased health care premiums, lower productivity of
8 employees, and higher absenteeism.

9 (2) The health benefits of worksite health promotion programs can
10 include increased physical activity, improved nutrition, reduced rates
11 of obesity, lower stress, decreased rates of smoking, reductions in
12 other health risks, and increased self-management of chronic
13 conditions.

14 (3) The financial benefits of worksite health promotion programs
15 can include decreased absenteeism, reduction in medical costs, improved
16 productivity, and improved employee satisfaction and loyalty leading to
17 increased retention and short-term disability savings.

18 It is the intent of the legislature to encourage Washington's

1 public and private sector employers to develop worksite health
2 promotion programs using targeted, individualized health information
3 and appropriate incentives to promote employee participation.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The authority shall develop an on-line health assessment tool
7 that is available to state employees. The health assessment tool must:
8 (a) Be voluntary; (b) be confidential; (c) enable participants to
9 compare their personal health information with local and national data;
10 and (d) generate recommendations about programs and actions most likely
11 to improve individual health.

12 (2) The authority shall make the on-line health assessment tool
13 available to private sector employers. The administrator may charge
14 private sector employers an annual enrollment fee sufficient to offset
15 the cost of administering the health assessment tool for private sector
16 employers.

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