

SB 6782 - DIGEST

Finds that: (1) A workplace where state employees can feel free to express their professional opinions encourages an open and free exchange of ideas and knowledge and more efficient government;

(2) Scientific integrity in work by state employees is increasingly important as the issues the state faces are increasing in complexity; and

(3) Many professional licenses require license holders to express their professional opinions and make independent professional judgments in their work.

Provides that state employees may express their professional opinions in the workplace on topics within their scope of duties, even if those opinions differ from the agency's official position or their supervisor's opinions.

Provides that any retaliation, disciplinary action, or withholding of a promotion to a state employee because he or she expressed his or her professional opinion or refused to sign a document as provided for under this act is a violation of chapter 42.52 RCW.