
HOUSE BILL 2298

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Representative Haler

1 AN ACT Relating to crane inspectors; amending RCW 49.17.420; and
2 providing an effective date.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.17.420 and 2007 c 27 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall establish, by rule, a crane certification
7 program for cranes used in construction. In establishing rules, the
8 department shall consult nationally recognized crane standards.

9 (2) The crane certification program must include, at a minimum, the
10 following:

11 (a) The department shall establish certification requirements for
12 crane inspectors, including an experience requirement, an education
13 requirement, a training requirement, and other necessary requirements
14 determined by the director;

15 (b) The department shall establish a process for certified crane
16 inspectors to issue temporary certificates of operation for a crane and
17 the department to issue a final certificate of operation for a crane
18 after a certified crane inspector determines that the crane meets

1 safety or health standards, including meeting or exceeding national
2 periodic inspection requirements recognized by the department;

3 (c) Crane owners must ensure that cranes are inspected and load
4 proof tested by a certified crane inspector at least annually and after
5 any significant modification or significant repairs of structural
6 parts. If the use of weights for a unit proof load test is not
7 possible or reasonable, other recording test equipment may be used. In
8 adopting rules implementing this requirement, the department may
9 consider similar standards and practices used by the federal
10 government;

11 (d) Tower cranes and tower crane assembly parts must be inspected
12 by a certified crane inspector both prior to assembly and following
13 erection of a tower crane;

14 (e) Before installation of a nonstandard tower crane base, the
15 engineering design of the nonstandard base shall be reviewed and
16 acknowledged as acceptable by an independent professional engineer;

17 (f) A certified crane inspector must notify the department and the
18 crane owner if, after inspection, the certified crane inspector finds
19 that the crane does not meet safety or health standards. A certified
20 crane inspector shall not attest that a crane meets safety or health
21 standards until any deficiencies are corrected and the correction is
22 verified by the certified crane inspector; (~~and~~)

23 (g) A certified crane inspector employed by a crane owner, repair
24 facility, dealer, lessor, or end user may not conduct the inspection
25 and load proof testing of any crane that has been modified, altered, or
26 repaired by the employer of the certified crane inspector; and

27 (h) Inspection reports including all information and documentation
28 obtained from a crane inspection shall be made available or provided to
29 the department by a certified crane inspector upon request.

30 (3) Except as provided in RCW 49.17.410(2), any crane operated in
31 the state must have a valid temporary or final certificate of operation
32 issued by the certified crane inspector or department posted in the
33 operator's cab or station.

34 (4) Certificates of operation issued by the department under the
35 crane certification program established in this section are valid for
36 one year from the effective date of the temporary operating certificate
37 issued by the certified crane inspector.

1 (5) This section does not apply to maritime cranes regulated by the
2 department.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect January 1, 2010.

--- END ---