Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Labor & Workforce Development Committee

HB 1056

Brief Description: Changing the department of labor and industries certified and registered mail requirements.

Sponsors: Representatives Hudgins, Green, McCoy, Eddy, Reykdal, Hunt and Moeller; by request of Department of Labor & Industries.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Changes specified mailing methods, including certified and registered mail, for various notices sent by the Department of Labor and Industries to a method by which the mailing can be tracked or delivery confirmed.

Hearing Date: 1/12/11

Staff: Joan Elgee (786-7106).

Background:

The programs administered by the Department of Labor and Industries (Department) include contractor registration, electrician and plumber credentialing, boiler and unfired pressure vessel permitting, and wage complaint investigations. Under these and other programs, the Department must send various notices using types of mailing specified in law. The required mailing methods include certified mail, registered mail, and first class mail.

Certified mail and registered mail are services offered by the U.S. Postal Service (Post Office). With certified mail, the sender receives a receipt stamped with the date of mailing. The recipient's signature is obtained at the time of delivery and a record maintained by the Post Office. A return receipt provides evidence of to whom the mail was delivered, the date of delivery, and the recipient's signature. Registered mail uses a system of receipts to monitor the movement of mail from acceptance to delivery.

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The Departments of Information Services and General Administration offer services to state agencies to track mail.

Summary of Bill:

Mailing requirements for the following types of notices are changed to a method by which the mailing can be tracked or the delivery confirmed:

Asbestos.

 Registered mail, return receipt requested for denial, suspension, or revocation of certificate.

Boilers/unfired pressure vessels.

• Certified mail for violation.

Contractor registration.

- Certified and first-class mail for suspension of registration regarding a bond or insurance.
- Certified mail for an infraction.
- Mail, return receipt requested for a copy of a notice of infraction when the notice is personally served.
- Certified mail, return receipt requested for a notice to deliver property of an unregistered contractor after notice of an assessment becomes final.

Electricians.

- Certified mail, return receipt requested for a penalty.
- Certified mail for revocation or suspension of certificate or license.

Elevators, lifting devices, and moving walks.

• Certified mail for suspension, revocation, penalty, and request for arbitration.

Manufactured/mobile homes.

• Certified mail for a penalty and revocation of certificate.

Plumbers.

- Registered mail, return receipt requested for revocation, suspension, or denial of renewal of a certificate.
- Certified mail for an infraction.

Seasonal labor.

• Registered mail for findings and award (copy).

Wage payment.

• Certified mail for citation and assessment or determination of compliance.

Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA).

• Certified mail for a citation, penalty, and failure to correct.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is

passed.

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