

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6473

As of February 1, 2012

Title: An act relating to shared work.

Brief Description: Concerning shared work.

Sponsors: Senators Kastama, Chase, Conway, Shin and Kohl-Welles.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection: 2/02/12.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Staff: Mac Nicholson (786-7445)

Background: The shared work program at the Employment Security Department (ESD) allows employers to temporarily reduce employee hours rather than lay-off workers, and allows the workers to collect partial unemployment benefits. Eligibility is limited to employees who are paid on an hourly basis, and there must be a 10-50 percent reduction in usual weekly work hours. Employers seeking to participate in a shared work plan must submit a plan to ESD that identifies the employees and certifies that the aggregate reduction in work hours is in lieu of temporary layoffs.

Summary of Bill: ESD must expand it's efforts in marketing the shared work program with a goal of doubling the number of employers with active plans by June 30, 2013.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 31, 2012.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.

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