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## Labor & Workforce Development Committee

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### HB 1611

**Brief Description:** Allowing lunch breaks for registered tow truck operators while requiring reasonable availability.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Liias, Condotta, Pollet, Moscoso, Freeman and Ryu.

#### Brief Summary of Bill

- Allows a registered tow truck operator to close the business for a lunch break if the operator posts a notice providing the telephone number of a person who can release impounded vehicles.

**Hearing Date:** 2/13/13

**Staff:** Trudes Tango (786-7384).

#### Background:

Tow truck operators who impound vehicles from private or public property or who contract with law enforcement to provide towing must be registered with the Department of Licensing. Only a registered operator may impound a vehicle.

Certain requirements apply regarding an operator's business location and hours. An operator must post a sign at the business location where vehicles may be redeemed that includes information about the business hours, towing and storage charges, and vehicle redemption procedures.

On a day the operator is open for business, the business office must remain open with personnel present who can release impounded vehicles. The normal business hours of a towing service must be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, excluding weekends and holidays. When an operator is not open for business and does not have personnel present at the location, the operator

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must post a telephone number that the public may contact for the release of vehicles. An operator must maintain personnel who can be contacted 24 hours a day to release impounded vehicles within a reasonable time.

**Summary of Bill:**

A registered tow truck operator may close the business office for a lunch break not to exceed one hour if a notice is posted, visible from the outside, providing a telephone number where personnel authorized to release impounded vehicles may be contacted.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

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