
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2541

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2014 Regular Session

By House Labor & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Representatives Haigh and MacEwen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/14.

1 AN ACT Relating to miniature hobby boilers; and amending RCW
2 70.79.070 and 70.79.080.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.79.070 and 2009 c 90 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) All boilers and unfired pressure vessels which were in use, or
7 installed ready for use in this state prior to the date upon which the
8 first rules and regulations under this chapter pertaining to existing
9 installations became effective, or during the twelve months period
10 immediately thereafter, shall be made to conform to the rules and
11 regulations of the board governing existing installations, and the
12 formulae prescribed therein shall be used in determining the maximum
13 allowable working pressure for such boilers and unfired pressure
14 vessels.

15 (2) This chapter shall not be construed as in any way preventing
16 the use or sale of boilers or unfired vessels as referred to in
17 subsection (1) of this section, provided they have been made to conform
18 to the rules and regulations of the board governing existing

1 installations, and provided, further, they have not been found upon
2 inspection to be in an unsafe condition.

3 ~~((3) An inspection certificate may also be granted for miniature
4 hobby boilers that do not comply with the code requirements of the
5 American society of mechanical engineers adopted under this chapter and
6 do not exceed any of the following limits:~~

7 ~~(a) Sixteen inches inside diameter of the shell;~~

8 ~~(b) Twenty square feet of total heating surface;~~

9 ~~(c) Five cubic feet of gross volume of vessel; and~~

10 ~~(d) One hundred fifty p.s.i.g. maximum allowable working pressure,
11 and if the boiler is to be operated exclusively not for commercial or
12 industrial use and the department of labor and industries finds, upon
13 inspection, that operation of the boiler for such purposes is not
14 unsafe.))~~

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.79.080 and 2009 c 90 s 3 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 This chapter shall not apply to the following boilers, unfired
18 pressure vessels and domestic hot water tanks:

19 (1) Boilers and unfired pressure vessels under federal regulation
20 or operated by any railroad subject to the provisions of the interstate
21 commerce act;

22 (2) Unfired pressure vessels meeting the requirements of the
23 interstate commerce commission for shipment of liquids or gases under
24 pressure;

25 (3) Air tanks located on vehicles operating under the rules of
26 other state authorities and used for carrying passengers, or freight;

27 (4) Air tanks installed on the right-of-way of railroads and used
28 directly in the operation of trains;

29 (5) Unfired pressure vessels having a volume of five cubic feet or
30 less when not located in places of public assembly;

31 (6) Unfired pressure vessels designed for a pressure not exceeding
32 fifteen pounds per square inch gauge;

33 (7) Tanks used in connection with heating water for domestic and/or
34 residential purposes;

35 (8) Boilers and unfired pressure vessels in cities having
36 ordinances which are enforced and which have requirements equal to or

1 higher than those provided for under this chapter, covering the
2 installation, operation, maintenance and inspection of boilers and
3 unfired pressure vessels;

4 (9) Tanks containing water with no air cushion and no direct source
5 of energy that operate at ambient temperature;

6 (10) Electric boilers:

7 (a) Having a tank volume of not more than one and one-half cubic
8 feet;

9 (b) Having a maximum allowable working pressure of one hundred
10 pounds per square inch or less, with a pressure relief system to
11 prevent excess pressure; and

12 (c) If constructed after June 10, 1994, constructed to American
13 society of mechanical engineers code, or approved or otherwise
14 certified by a nationally recognized or recognized foreign testing
15 laboratory or construction code, including but not limited to
16 Underwriters Laboratories, Edison Testing Laboratory, or Istituto
17 Superiore Per La Prevenzione E La Sicurezza Del Lavoro;

18 (11) Electrical switchgear and control apparatus that have no
19 external source of energy to maintain pressure and are located in
20 restricted access areas under the control of an electric utility;

21 (12) Regardless of location, unfired pressure vessels less than one
22 and one-half cubic feet (11.25 gallons) in volume or less than six
23 inches in diameter with no limitation on the length of the vessel or
24 pressure;

25 (13) Domestic hot water heaters less than one and one-half cubic
26 feet (11.25 gallons) in volume with a safety valve setting of one
27 hundred fifty pounds per square inch gauge or less;

28 (14)(a)(i) Miniature hobby boilers that have been certified by an
29 inspector as of the effective date of this section; or

30 (ii) Miniature hobby boilers that have not been certified by an
31 inspector as of the effective date of this section but that receive
32 certification from the chief inspector prior to being placed in
33 service.

34 (b) For the purposes of this subsection, "miniature hobby boilers"
35 means those that do not comply with the code requirements of the
36 American society of mechanical engineers adopted under this chapter and
37 do not exceed any of the following limits:

38 (i) Sixteen inches inside diameter of the shell;

- 1 (ii) Twenty square feet of total heating surface;
2 (iii) Five cubic feet of gross volume of vessel; and
3 (iv) One hundred fifty p.s.i.g. maximum allowable working pressure
4 and the boiler is to be operated exclusively not for commercial or
5 industrial use.

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