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SENATE BILL 6290

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State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2014 Regular Session

By Senators Sheldon, Roach, and Hill

Read first time 01/20/14. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

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) Miniature hobby boilers that do not comply with the code  
29 requirements of the American society of mechanical engineers adopted  
30 under this chapter and do not exceed any of the following limits:

31 (a) Sixteen inches inside diameter of the shell;

32 (b) Twenty square feet of total heating surface;

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

34 (d) One hundred fifty p.s.i.g. maximum allowable working pressure,  
35 and the boiler is to be operated exclusively not for commercial or  
36 industrial use.

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