

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2444

As Reported by House Committee On: Labor & Workplace Standards

Title: An act relating to eliminating the reference to the standard industrial classification system in the worker and community right to know fund.

Brief Description: Eliminating the reference to the standard industrial classification system in the worker and community right to know fund.

Sponsors: Representatives Manweller, Sells and Kilduff; by request of Department of Labor & Industries.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Labor & Workplace Standards: 1/18/16, 1/26/16 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Department of Labor and Industries to use an updated classification system for the purposes of the Worker and Community Right to Know fund.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & WORKPLACE STANDARDS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 7 members: Representatives Sells, Chair; Gregerson, Vice Chair; Manweller, Ranking Minority Member; G. Hunt, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; McCabe, Moeller and Ormsby.

Staff: Trudes Tango (786-7384).

Background:

The Worker and Community Right to Know Act (Right to Know Act) requires the state to establish a comprehensive program for disclosing information about hazardous substances in the workplace and community. Among other things, the program assists employers in determining if hazardous substances are present in their workplace and helping employers with setting up their hazards communication program.

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 program is funded through annual fee assessments to employers in industries that typically use hazardous chemicals. The Right to Know Act requires the Department of Labor and Industries (Department) to use the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code to determine which industries should be assessed a fee. The SIC system is considered obsolete and has generally been replaced with the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Summary of Bill:

For the purposes of identifying industries for the Right to Know Act fee assessment, the Department must use the NAICS rather than SIC system.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) Using the updated coding system will ensure that billing for the Right to Know Act fee assessment is accurate.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Tammy Fellin, Department of Labor and Industries.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.