
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5234

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senate Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Senators Sheldon, Dansel, Dammeier, Becker, Schoesler, Honeyford, and Conway)

READ FIRST TIME 01/29/15.

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,
7 or installed ready for use in this state prior to the date upon which
8 the first rules and regulations under this chapter pertaining to
9 existing installations became effective, or during the twelve months
10 period immediately thereafter, shall be made to conform to the rules
11 and regulations of the board governing existing installations, and
12 the formulae prescribed therein shall be used in determining the
13 maximum allowable working pressure for such boilers and unfired
14 pressure 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
18 conform to the rules and regulations of the board governing existing
19 installations, and provided, further, they have not been found upon
20 inspection to be in an unsafe condition.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 (8) Boilers and unfired pressure vessels in cities having
34 ordinances which are enforced and which have requirements equal to or
35 higher than those provided for under this chapter, covering the
36 installation, operation, maintenance and inspection of boilers and
37 unfired pressure vessels;

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

1 (10) Electric boilers:
2 (a) Having a tank volume of not more than one and one-half cubic
3 feet;
4 (b) Having a maximum allowable working pressure of one hundred
5 pounds per square inch or less, with a pressure relief system to
6 prevent excess pressure; and
7 (c) If constructed after June 10, 1994, constructed to American
8 society of mechanical engineers code, or approved or otherwise
9 certified by a nationally recognized or recognized foreign testing
10 laboratory or construction code, including but not limited to
11 Underwriters Laboratories, Edison Testing Laboratory, or Istituto
12 Superiore Per La Prevenzione E La Sicurezza Del Lavoro;
13 (11) Electrical switchgear and control apparatus that have no
14 external source of energy to maintain pressure and are located in
15 restricted access areas under the control of an electric utility;
16 (12) Regardless of location, unfired pressure vessels less than
17 one and one-half cubic feet (11.25 gallons) in volume or less than
18 six inches in diameter with no limitation on the length of the vessel
19 or pressure;
20 (13) Domestic hot water heaters less than one and one-half cubic
21 feet (11.25 gallons) in volume with a safety valve setting of one
22 hundred fifty pounds per square inch gauge or less;
23 (14)(a)(i) Miniature hobby boilers that have been certified by an
24 inspector as of the effective date of this section; or
25 (ii) Miniature hobby boilers that have not been certified by an
26 inspector as of the effective date of this section but that receive
27 certification from the chief inspector prior to being placed in
28 service.
29 (b) For the purposes of this subsection, "miniature hobby
30 boilers" means those that do not comply with the code requirements of
31 the American society of mechanical engineers adopted under this
32 chapter and do not exceed any of the following limits:
33 (i) Sixteen inches inside diameter of the shell;
34 (ii) Twenty square feet of total heating surface;
35 (iii) Five cubic feet of gross volume of vessel;
36 (iv) One hundred fifty p.s.i.g. maximum allowable working
37 pressure; and

1 (v) The boiler is to be operated exclusively not for commercial
2 or industrial use.

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