

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 2821

As of February 13, 2018

Title: An act relating to delegation of inspection duties.

Brief Description: Concerning delegation of inspection duties.

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

Brief History: Passed House: 2/09/18, 98-0.

Committee Activity: Labor & Commerce: 2/19/18.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Allows the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) to delegate its inspection duties related to factory built housing and commercial structures to a qualified inspection agency.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & COMMERCE

Staff: Richard Rodger (786-7461)

Background: L&I regulates factory assembled structures, which include manufactured and mobile homes, recreational vehicles, and factory built housing and commercial structures. Factory built housing is a structure designed primarily for human occupancy, other than a manufactured or mobile home, that is substantially or entirely prefabricated or assembled at a place other than a building site. A commercial structure is a structure designed for human habitation, or human occupancy for industrial, education, assembly, professional or commercial purposes, such as a school portable. Factory built housing and commercial structures may not be installed in the state unless they are approved by and bear an insignia of approval from L&I.

L&I conducts an inspection at the factory to ensure standards are met and may contract with a local enforcement agency to conduct the factory inspection. A local enforcement agency is a city or county agency that enforces the laws governing building construction. L&I currently conducts some factory inspections in other countries where the structures are assembled and shipped to Washington State.

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Summary of Bill: L&I may delegate its inspection duties related to factory built housing and commercial structures to a qualified inspection agency in addition to a local enforcement agency.

A qualified inspection agency is a nongovernmental entity which is approved to perform inspections under contract with L&I. A qualified inspection agency must:

- be objective, competent, and independent from the companies responsible for the work being inspected;
- disclose any conflict of interest;
- have adequate equipment to perform the inspections; and
- employ experienced personnel with appropriate certifications and knowledge—a certification by the International Code Council meets this requirement.

A local enforcement agency is defined to include a state agency as well as a city or county agency.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.