
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2820

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By House Labor & Workplace Standards (originally sponsored by Representatives McCabe, Pettigrew, Stambaugh, Macri, Vick, Reeves, Jenkin, Sells, Kagi, Muri, and Kilduff)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to the healthy relationships campaign; creating
2 new sections; providing an expiration date; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that unhealthy
6 relationships lead to violence, broken families, unsafe and unlawful
7 workplaces, and other societal ills. According to the national
8 coalition against domestic violence, every nine seconds a woman is
9 assaulted or beaten in the United States and one in three women and
10 one in four men have been victims of physical violence by an intimate
11 partner. In Washington state, forty-eight domestic violence homicides
12 were committed in 2015 and forty-two in 2016. Further, a recent poll
13 found that more than half of women in the United States have
14 experienced unwanted and inappropriate sexual advances from men,
15 three in ten have put up with unwanted advances from male coworkers,
16 and a quarter have endured unwanted advances from men who had
17 influence over their work situation.

18 (2) The legislature finds that unhealthy relationships occur in
19 the workplace, and are also discussed in the workplace as individuals
20 experiencing domestic violence may find the workplace a place of
21 respite and shared confidences. Therefore, the legislature intends to

1 shine the light on and help curb unhealthy relationships by creating
2 a campaign to provide information in the workplace to empower victims
3 and others to support healthy relationships in Washington's families,
4 workplaces, and communities.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A joint legislative task force on the
6 healthy relationships campaign is created to identify ways in which
7 the employer and employee community can help curb unhealthy
8 relationships, including domestic violence and sexual harassment.

9 (2) The members of the task force are as provided in this
10 subsection.

11 (a) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from
12 each of the two largest caucuses in the senate.

13 (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one
14 member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
15 representatives.

16 (c) The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
17 representatives shall jointly appoint:

18 (i) One member representing each of the following:

19 (A) The association of Washington business;

20 (B) The national federation of independent business;

21 (C) The Washington hospitality association;

22 (D) The Washington retail association;

23 (E) The Washington state labor council;

24 (F) The Washington coalition of sexual assault programs;

25 (G) The Washington coalition against domestic violence; and

26 (H) A federally recognized tribe;

27 (ii) A business owner;

28 (iii) A survivor of sexual harassment;

29 (iv) A survivor of domestic violence; and

30 (v) Up to two additional members.

31 (3) The task force shall choose two cochairs from among its
32 legislative membership. The legislative members shall convene the
33 initial meeting of the task force.

34 (4) The task force shall review the following issues:

35 (a) The prevalence of domestic violence, sexual harassment, and
36 other forms of unhealthy relationships;

37 (b) The nexus between unhealthy relationships and the workplace;

1 (c) The appropriate role of employers and employees in providing
2 information to help reduce the incidence of domestic violence, sexual
3 harassment, and other forms of unhealthy relationships; and

4 (d) Whether legislation is needed to address the issues outlined
5 in this subsection.

6 (5) Staff support for the task force shall be provided by the
7 senate committee services and the house of representatives office of
8 program research.

9 (6) Legislative members of the task force must be reimbursed for
10 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
11 members, except those representing an employer or organization, are
12 entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW
13 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

14 (7) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the
15 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures are
16 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee
17 and the house of representatives executive rules committee or their
18 successor committees.

19 (8) The task force shall submit its findings and recommendations
20 to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2018.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act expires June 30, 2019.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
23 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
24 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
25 effect immediately.

--- END ---