
SENATE BILL 5627

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Brown and Keiser

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the healthy energy workers board;
2 and adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts
5 appropriated for this specific purpose, the healthy energy workers
6 board is established. The purpose of the board is to develop
7 recommendations for successfully diagnosing and treating diseases or
8 other health problems experienced by workers, including contractors
9 and subcontractors, who have performed work for the United States at
10 the Hanford site.

11 (2) The University of Washington, through the center of
12 excellence for chemically related illness at Harborview medical
13 center, and the department of labor and industries, shall provide
14 administrative support to the healthy energy workers board, including
15 making arrangements for the inaugural meeting of the board and
16 subsequent meetings.

17 (3) The healthy energy workers board is composed of the following
18 members, who must be appointed by the governor, subject to
19 confirmation by the senate in accordance with RCW 43.06.092:

20 (a) An individual representing the United States department of
21 energy Richland operations office;

1 (b) An individual representing the central Washington building
2 and construction trades council;

3 (c) The director of the department of labor and industries, or
4 the director's designee;

5 (d) The state secretary of health, or the secretary's designee;

6 (e) An individual representing the Hanford atomic metal trades
7 council;

8 (f) An individual representing the United States department of
9 energy office of river protection; and

10 (g) An individual representing Harborview medical center.

11 (4) Members are appointed for a term of four years and may be
12 reappointed.

13 (5) In addition to the members appointed to the healthy energy
14 workers board under subsection (3) of this section, medical
15 professionals employed by the University of Washington or Harborview
16 medical center may be invited by the director of the department of
17 labor and industries, in consultation with the University of
18 Washington or Harborview medical center, to participate in an
19 advisory capacity in meetings of the board. Individuals participating
20 in an advisory capacity under this subsection are not members of the
21 board and are not subject to the appointment process established in
22 this section. There is no limit to the number of individuals who may
23 participate in board meetings in an advisory capacity under this
24 subsection.

25 (6) The healthy energy workers board shall hold its inaugural
26 meeting by October 1, 2019. The board may hold subsequent meetings at
27 its discretion, but shall meet at least two times per year.

28 (7) The healthy energy workers board shall focus on the following
29 subjects:

30 (a) Research and development of protocols for diagnosing diseases
31 or other health problems that may be the result of exposure to
32 hazardous substances or other dangerous conditions at the Hanford
33 site;

34 (b) Research and development of patient monitoring or
35 surveillance strategies that will result in the collection of data
36 regarding long-term outcomes for workers who have been treated for
37 diseases or other health problems that may be linked to working at
38 the Hanford site;

39 (c) Surveying data and information, including data and
40 information from other states and nations, that may be helpful to

1 developing strategies for diagnosing and treating diseases or other
2 health problems that may be linked to working at the Hanford site;
3 and

4 (d) Discussing and making recommendations regarding public health
5 programs that may be developed at the state level to benefit workers
6 who have worked, or are working, at the Hanford site.

7 (8) The healthy energy workers board shall provide a report to
8 the legislature by December 1st each year beginning in 2020
9 documenting the activities of the board and reporting on the subjects
10 listed in subsection (7) of this section. The department of labor and
11 industries may provide staff support to the board for the purpose of
12 authoring the report and transmitting it to the legislature. Any
13 member of the board may provide a minority report as an appendix to
14 the report submitted to the legislature under this section.

15 (9) The healthy energy workers board is a class one group under
16 RCW 43.03.220.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act constitutes a new
18 chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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