
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1779

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By House Environment & Energy (originally sponsored by
Representatives Mosbrucker, Dye, and Pollet)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to reducing toxic air pollution that threatens
2 human health; creating new sections; and providing an expiration
3 date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that carbon monoxide
6 poisoning kills at least 430 people in the United States every year
7 and 50,000 people seek medical care to treat the adverse effects of
8 carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide gas is odorless and
9 colorless, making it difficult for people to protect themselves and
10 detect an issue that can cause sudden illness, death, and lifelong
11 disability. Washington state has already enacted requirements for
12 carbon monoxide alarms in residences. Therefore, the legislature
13 intends to direct state agencies to collaborate on a study of what
14 Washington state is doing to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning from
15 sources outside of the home and what the state might reasonably do to
16 keep people safe.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) By September 1, 2023, the department
18 of health must convene an interagency carbon monoxide work group
19 consisting of representatives of the department of ecology, the
20 director of the forensic laboratory services at the Washington state

1 patrol, the department of transportation, and the office of the
2 attorney general. The interagency carbon monoxide work group must
3 nominate a chair and the chair may designate up to two additional
4 participants with subject matter expertise to participate on the work
5 group.

6 (2) The purpose of the interagency carbon monoxide work group is
7 to produce a report regarding current and recommended future state
8 agency activities to:

9 (a) Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning from sources outside of the
10 home;

11 (b) Increase awareness of carbon monoxide among the most at-risk
12 populations;

13 (c) Collect data on the number of incidents of carbon monoxide
14 poisoning and their causes in Washington, in order to track the
15 reduction of such incidents over time; and

16 (d) Identify any opportunities to seek federal grants or other
17 sources of funding available for public awareness campaigns related
18 to carbon monoxide harm avoidance.

19 (3) The interagency carbon monoxide work group must submit a
20 report to the appropriate committees of the legislature and the
21 governor by December 1, 2024, that contains recommendations on new
22 policy changes and other actions that could be taken to reduce carbon
23 monoxide poisoning in Washington.

24 (4) This section expires July 1, 2026.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act may be known and cited as Mary's
26 law.

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