
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5153

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development (originally sponsored by Senators Franklin, Kohl-Welles, Shin, Weinstein, Oemig, Keiser, Kauffman, Rockefeller, Fairley, Hargrove, Rasmussen, Spanel, Fraser, Jacobsen and Haugen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to encouraging employers to be infant-friendly;
2 amending RCW 43.70.640; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; and
3 making an appropriation.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.70.640 and 2001 c 88 s 3 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) An employer, if requested by an employee, is encouraged but not
8 required, to become infant-friendly.

9 (2) An employer may use the designation "infant-friendly" on its
10 promotional materials and otherwise, if the employer has an approved
11 workplace breastfeeding policy addressing at least the following:

12 (a) Flexible work scheduling, including scheduling breaks and
13 permitting work patterns that provide time for expression of breast
14 milk;

15 (b) A convenient, sanitary, safe, and private location, other than
16 a restroom, allowing privacy for breastfeeding or expressing breast
17 milk;

18 (c) A convenient clean and safe water source with facilities for

1 washing hands and rinsing breast-pumping equipment located in the
2 private location specified in (b) of this subsection; and

3 (d) A convenient hygienic refrigerator in the workplace for the
4 mother's breast milk.

5 ~~((+2))~~ (3) Employers seeking approval of a workplace breastfeeding
6 policy must submit the policy to the department of health. The
7 department of health shall review and approve those policies that meet
8 the requirements of this section. The department may directly develop
9 and implement the criteria for "infant-friendly" employers, or contract
10 with a vendor for this purpose.

11 ~~((+3))~~ (4) If available, an employer shall include in its
12 personnel policy a section on its infant-friendly policy and whether it
13 has been approved by the department. If the employer does have a
14 workplace infant-friendly policy of its own or one that is
15 department-approved, that information must be given to its employees
16 upon their request. If an employer does not have an infant-friendly
17 policy in place, that information must be disclosed to the requesting
18 employee.

19 (5) For the purposes of this section, "employer" includes those
20 employers defined in RCW 49.12.005 and also includes the state, state
21 institutions, state agencies, political subdivisions of the state, and
22 municipal corporations or quasi-municipal corporations.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 (1) The department will convene a stakeholder group of appropriate
26 representatives to develop standard model infant-friendly policies that
27 may be adjusted to accommodate individual businesses.

28 (2) The department shall disseminate information on how to obtain
29 the sample infant-friendly policies and obtain an infant-friendly
30 designation to employers through existing mailings going to employers
31 from other state agencies.

32 (3) Within existing resources serving expectant and new mothers,
33 the department must provide the sample infant-friendly policies to
34 doctors, licensed midwives, lactation consultants, and hospitals for
35 distribution to expectant and new mothers to help them talk with their
36 employers and facilitate a successful return to work.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of fifty-five thousand dollars, or
2 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium
3 ending June 30, 2009, from the general fund to the department of health
4 for the purposes of this act.

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