
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5121

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture & Agricultural Trade & Development
(originally sponsored by Senators Rasmussen, Morton, Snyder, Newhouse,
Loveland, A. Anderson, Hochstatter, Haugen and Deccio)

Read first time 02/23/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to agricultural safety standards; adding new
2 sections to chapter 49.17 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) The state's highly productive and efficient agricultural sector
6 is composed predominately of family-owned and managed farms and an
7 industrious and efficient work force;

8 (2) A reasonable level of safety regulations is needed to protect
9 workers;

10 (3) The smaller but highly efficient farming operations would
11 benefit from safety rules that are easily referenced and agriculture-
12 specific to the extent possible; and

13 (4) There should be lead time between the adoption of agriculture
14 safety rules and their effective date in order to allow the department
15 of labor and industries to provide training, education, and enhanced
16 consultation services to family-owned and managed farms.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 49.17 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 (1) The department shall delay until December 15, 1995, the
2 effective date of agriculture safety rules adopted after January 1,
3 1995, under chapter 49.17 RCW.

4 (2) These rules must:

5 (a) Establish, for agricultural employers, an agriculture safety
6 standard that includes agriculture-specific rules and specific
7 references to the general industry safety standard adopted under
8 chapter 49.17 RCW; and

9 (b) Exempt agricultural employers from the general industry safety
10 standard adopted under chapter 49.17 RCW for all rules not specifically
11 referenced in the agriculture safety standard.

12 (3) The department shall publish in one volume all of the
13 occupational safety rules that apply to agricultural employers and
14 shall make this volume available to all agricultural employers before
15 December 15, 1995. This volume must be available in both English and
16 Spanish.

17 (4) The department shall provide training, education, and enhanced
18 consultation services concerning its agricultural safety rules to
19 agricultural employers before the rules' effective dates. The
20 training, education, and consultation must continue throughout the
21 winter of 1995-1996. Training and education programs must be provided
22 throughout the state and must be coordinated with agricultural
23 associations in order to meet their members' needs.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 49.17 RCW
25 to read as follows:

26 Other than rules described in section 2 of this act, the director
27 may adopt, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, rules concerning
28 agriculture safety, other than emergency rules, only:

29 (1) As specifically required by federal law, and only to the extent
30 specifically required; or

31 (2) As specifically authorized by the legislature.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is remedial in nature and applies
33 to rules adopted after January 1, 1995.

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