CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1133

Chapter 138, Laws of 2001

57th Legislature
2001 Regular Legislative Session

INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE--DONATED LABOR

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/22/01

Passed by the House March 9, 2001
Yeas 98 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 10, 2001
Yeas 48 Nays 1

BRAD OWEN
President of the Senate

We, Timothy A. Martin and Cynthia Zehnder, Co-Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1133 as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

TIMOTHY A. MARTIN
Chief Clerk

CYNTHIA ZEHNDER
Chief Clerk

FILED
May 2, 2001 - 10:29 a.m.

GARY LOCKE
Governor of the State of Washington

Secretary of State
State of Washington
AN ACT Relating to limiting liability for donated labor on community projects; amending RCW 51.12.050 and 51.12.035; and creating a new section.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that government and business partnerships on projects for community improvement can assist communities to preserve historic property and create opportunities for volunteer service. The legislature also recognizes that uncertainty about risks and obligations may deter employers who would otherwise be willing to donate materials and equipment to a community project. The purpose of this act is to encourage participation by establishing clear criteria for determining industrial insurance obligations with respect to donated labor on certain community projects.

Sec. 2. RCW 51.12.050 and 1977 ex.s. c 350 s 18 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Whenever ((the state, county, any municipal corporation, or other taxing district shall)) a public entity engages in any work, or let a contract therefor, in which workers are employed for wages, this...
title shall be applicable thereto. The employer’s payments into the accident fund shall be made from the treasury of the ((state, county, municipality, or other taxing district)) public entity. If the work is being done by contract, the payroll of the contractor and the subcontractor shall be the basis of computation and, in the case of contract work consuming less than one year in performance, the required payment into the accident fund shall be based upon the total payroll. The contractor and any subcontractor shall be subject to the provisions of this title, and the state for its general fund, the county, municipal corporation, or other taxing district shall be entitled to collect from the contractor the full amount payable to the accident fund and the contractor, in turn, shall be entitled to collect from the subcontractor his or her proportionate amount of the payment.

(2)(a) A public entity may seek partnerships with volunteer groups and businesses to engage in community improvement projects to benefit the public entity. In administering a project, the public entity must:

(i) Provide prospective donors and participants written notice of the risks and responsibilities to be assumed by the public entity and the donors or participants. A volunteer donating labor on the project must, before beginning work, document in writing that he or she has received the notice and that he or she is donating labor as a result of his or her own free choice; and

(ii) Pay premiums and assessments required under this title to secure medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW for volunteers donating labor on the project.

(b) A contractor or employer donating equipment or materials for use on a community improvement project shall not, for the purposes of this title, be considered the employer of an individual donating labor unless the contractor or employer pays the individual wages for working on the project or makes working on the project a condition of employment. This subsection applies regardless of whether:

(i) The contractor or employer informs the individual about the community improvement project or encourages the individual to donate labor on the project;

(ii) The individual uses equipment or materials on the project that are donated by the contractor or the individual’s employer; or

(iii) The individual is granted maintenance or reimbursement for actual expenses necessarily incurred in performing labor for the project.
(3) Whenever and so long as, by state law, city charter, or municipal ordinance, provision is made for employees or peace officers injured in the course of employment, such employees shall not be entitled to the benefits of this title and shall not be included in the payroll of the municipality under this title: PROVIDED, That whenever any state law, city charter, or municipal ordinance only provides for payment to the employee of the difference between his or her actual wages and that received under this title such employees shall be entitled to the benefits of this title and may be included in the payroll of the municipality.

(4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Community improvement project" means a project sponsored by a public entity that uses donated labor, materials, or equipment and includes, but is not limited to, projects to repair, restore, or preserve historic property.

(b) "Historic property" means real property owned by a public entity including, but not limited to, barns, schools, military structures, and cemeteries.

(c) "Public entity" means the state, county, any municipal corporation, or other taxing district.

Sec. 3. RCW 51.12.035 and 1981 c 266 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Volunteers shall be deemed employees and/or workers, as the case may be, for all purposes relating to medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW.

A "volunteer" shall mean a person who performs any assigned or authorized duties for the state or any agency thereof, except emergency services workers as described by chapter 38.52 RCW, brought about by one’s own free choice, receives no wages, and is registered and accepted as a volunteer by the state or any agency thereof, prior to the occurrence of the injury or the contraction of an occupational disease, for the purpose of engaging in authorized volunteer service: PROVIDED, That such person shall be deemed to be a volunteer although he or she may be granted maintenance and reimbursement for actual expenses necessarily incurred in performing his or her assigned or authorized duties.
Any and all premiums or assessments due under this title on account of such volunteer service shall be the obligation of and be paid by the state or any agency thereof which has registered and accepted the services of volunteers.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 51.12.050, volunteers may be deemed employees and/or workers, as the case may be, for all purposes relating to medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW at the option of any city, county, town, special district, municipal corporation, or political subdivision of any type, or any private nonprofit charitable organization, when any such unit of local government or any such nonprofit organization has given notice of covering all of its volunteers to the director prior to the occurrence of the injury or contraction of an occupational disease.

A "volunteer" shall mean a person who performs any assigned or authorized duties for any such unit of local government, or any such organization, except emergency services workers as described by chapter 38.52 RCW, or fire fighters covered by chapter 41.24 RCW, brought about by one’s own free choice, receives no wages, and is registered and accepted as a volunteer by any such unit of local government, or any such organization which has given such notice, for the purpose of engaging in authorized volunteer services: PROVIDED, That such person shall be deemed to be a volunteer although he or she may be granted maintenance and reimbursement for actual expenses necessarily incurred in performing his or her assigned or authorized duties: PROVIDED FURTHER, That juveniles performing community services under chapter 13.40 RCW may not be granted coverage as volunteers under this section.

Any and all premiums or assessments due under this title on account of such volunteer service for any such unit of local government, or any such organization shall be the obligation of and be paid by such organization which has registered and accepted the services of volunteers and exercised its option to secure the medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW for such volunteers.

Passed the House March 9, 2001.
Passed the Senate April 10, 2001.
Approved by the Governor May 2, 2001.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 2, 2001.