

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5744

63rd Legislature
2013 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 27, 2013
YEAS 47 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 16, 2013
YEAS 96 NAYS 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5744** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5744

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2013 Regular Session

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senate Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Hatfield, and Conway)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to reporting on the progress of the logger safety
2 initiative; adding a new section to chapter 51.04 RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that many Washington
6 workers involved in manual logging in the logging industry suffer
7 industrial injuries with greater frequency and severity than workers in
8 other industries. The legislature further finds that the incidence and
9 severity of injury is particularly high among young workers during the
10 early periods of employment in manual logging. The legislature
11 recognizes the importance of improving safety performance in the
12 logging industry to reduce industrial injuries for workers and
13 resulting workers' compensation premium rates for employers. The
14 legislature acknowledges that industry participants, including private
15 land owners, timber industry employers, the department of natural
16 resources, and the department of labor and industries, have formed a
17 logger safety task force to develop and implement a logger safety
18 initiative. The goal of the initiative is to reduce the frequency and
19 severity of injuries in the logging industry. The task force will

1 create a program that will establish sector-wide standards for worker
2 training and supervision; establish a certification process for
3 individual company safety programs; and review the progress of logging
4 operations through mandatory performance-based audits. The legislature
5 further recognizes that as the safety culture in the logging industry
6 evolves, the frequency and severity of injuries will decrease, which
7 will drive down industrial insurance costs for logging industry
8 employers. While the industrial insurance costs will decline over time
9 as safety improves, the legislature acknowledges that an immediate
10 reduction in industrial insurance rates for the 2014 rate year for
11 participating logging employers provides an additional incentive for
12 these employers to commit to the logger safety initiative. Therefore,
13 the legislature intends to monitor development and implementation of
14 the logger safety initiative.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 51.04 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) The department shall include one or more representatives of
18 logging industry workers on the logger safety task force. In addition,
19 the department shall reach out to all employers in the logging
20 industry, including those having one or more on the job fatalities in
21 the last five years, and invite them to participate in the logger
22 safety initiative. All participants must comply with the requirements
23 of the logger safety initiative.

24 (2) By December 31, 2013, the department shall report back to the
25 appropriate committees of the legislature on the development and
26 implementation of the logger safety initiative. The report shall
27 provide a status update on implementation of the initiative and
28 participation in the safety program, including a description and
29 summary of the worker training and supervision standards and the
30 certification process for individual companies. The report shall also
31 contain a description and summary of any industrial insurance rate
32 reduction or other incentive for rate year 2014 that will be applied to
33 employers participating in the initiative. The report may provide
34 recommendations for legislative consideration to further the goals of
35 the initiative.

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