

WAC 296-360-140 Discrimination because of exercise of right afforded by WISHA—Walkaround pay. Employee participation in walkaround inspections under RCW 49.17.100 is essential. Employees are a vital source of information to the division about work place hazards. Employees must be able freely to exercise their statutory right to participate in walkarounds without fear of economic loss, such as the denial of pay for the time spent helping WISHA inspectors during the walkaround. To ensure the unimpeded flow of information to the inspectors, and the unfettered statutory right of employees to participate in walkaround inspections, an employer's failure to pay employees for time they spend in walkaround inspections is discrimination under RCW 49.17.160. In addition, an employer's failure to pay employees for time spent in other inspection-related activities, such as answering questions of inspectors or participating in the opening and closing conferences, is discrimination under RCW 49.17.160.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 94-15-096 (Order 94-07), § 296-360-140, filed 7/20/94, effective 9/20/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.240, chapters 43.22 and 42.30 RCW. WSR 80-17-015 (Order 80-21), § 296-360-140, filed 11/13/80.]