
SENATE BILL 5785

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Hochstatter, Snyder, Sellar, Oke, L. Smith, Hargrove, Deccio, M. Rasmussen, Erwin, Bauer, McDonald, Haugen, Cantu, McCaslin, Bluechel, Barr, Roach, Owen, Newhouse, West, Anderson, Moyer and Jesernig

Read first time 02/15/93. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

1 AN ACT Relating to employment of minors; adding new sections to
2 chapter 49.12 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 49.12 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The legislature finds that parents are the primary caretakers of
7 their minor children, and that they are best able to determine what is
8 in the best interest of their children, including what hours of labor
9 are fit and proper for them considering the age, health, abilities,
10 educational requirements, and other circumstances uniquely appropriate
11 to each individual child.

12 The legislature also finds that the state must give great deference
13 to the judgments of parents regarding the hours their minor children
14 may work and that unnecessary intrusions in family decisions and
15 unreasonable restraints on the hours minor children may work unduly
16 interfere with personal and private affairs and with the ability of
17 young people to learn a trade and earn adequate incomes.

18 The legislature also finds that the requirements in section 2 of
19 this act relating to the hours of minor labor reasonably and

1 sufficiently protect the health, safety, and welfare of employed
2 minors.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 49.12 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) Minors under age sixteen may not be employed during school
6 hours, except by special permission from school officials as outlined
7 in RCW 28A.225.010 and 28A.225.080. Minors under age sixteen may not
8 be employed during the school year before seven a.m. nor after seven
9 p.m. on days immediately preceding a school day nor after nine p.m. on
10 days not immediately preceding a school day. During school vacations
11 minors under age sixteen may not work past nine p.m.

12 (2) Minors under age sixteen may not be employed more than three
13 hours per day on school days, nor more than eighteen hours per week
14 during school weeks. During school vacations, a minor under age
15 sixteen may not be employed more than forty hours per week.

16 (3) A minor may not be employed more than eight hours per day nor
17 more than six days in any one week. Minors employed past eight p.m. in
18 service occupations must be supervised by a responsible adult who is
19 required to be on the premises. During the school year, a minor may
20 not be employed for more than forty hours per week.

21 (4) A minor may not be employed on consecutive nights, both of
22 which precede a school day, unless working no later than ten p.m.

23 (5) A minor may not be employed more than five hours without a meal
24 period of at least thirty minutes.

25 (6) A minor employee shall be given a rest period of at least ten
26 minutes in every four-hour period of employment, except as otherwise
27 provided by law.

28 (7) An agency may not adopt rules under this title that further
29 restrict minor working hours.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
31 preservation of the public peace, morals, health, or safety, or support
32 of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall
33 take effect immediately.

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