
SENATE BILL 6784

State of Washington **56th Legislature** **2000 Regular Session**

By Senators Hargrove, T. Sheldon, Hochstatter, Roach, Sheahan and Oke

Read first time 01/27/2000. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to product liability for use of lawful products;
2 adding a new section to chapter 4.24 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends to relieve the
5 courts of this state from unnecessary congestion resulting from claims
6 involving products which are lawful, used as intended, and not
7 inherently unsafe. The legislature also intends to provide reasonable
8 predictability in commercial production and transactions and mitigate
9 unnecessary costs of insurance. Nothing in this act is intended, and
10 shall not be construed as, restricting in any way recovery for damages
11 resulting from products which are defectively designed or manufactured
12 or which are inherently unsafe.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) There shall be no cause of action for damages in any superior,
16 district, or municipal court in Washington against the manufacturer,
17 distributor, or seller of any product when:

18 (a) The product is a lawful product; and

1 (b) The product is used as intended and is not inherently unsafe.

2 (2) For purposes of this section, "not inherently unsafe" means a
3 lawful product which, when used in the manner intended by the
4 manufacturer, distributor, or seller, does not result in injury,
5 disease, or death.

6 (3) Nothing in this section prevents the use of any lawful product
7 to prevent unlawful harm to an individual. Such use shall not be the
8 basis for any cause of action against the manufacturer, distributor, or
9 seller of the product.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any provision of this act or its
11 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
12 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
13 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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