

5951-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Financial Institutions (originally sponsored by Senators Prentice, Fraser, Franklin, Costa and Kline)

Brief Description: Increasing penalties for violations of wage payment laws.

**SB 5951-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that the Washington state minimum wage law and wage claim laws do not require payment of interest on back wages owed and do not authorize adequate penalties against violators. To improve compliance, the department of labor and industries should be allowed to assess interest on back wages and impose civil penalties against employers who are found to be not in compliance with chapter 49.46 and 49.48 RCW.