
SENATE BILL 5784

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senators Parlette and Rasmussen

Read first time 02/12/2003. Referred to Committee on Agriculture.

1 AN ACT Relating to a pilot project by the department of agriculture
2 and the department of labor and industries to determine the feasibility
3 and benefits for medical monitoring of agricultural workers; adding a
4 new section to chapter 17.21 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring
5 an emergency.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that: The state's
8 highly productive and efficient agriculture sector is composed
9 predominately of family owned and managed farms and an industrious and
10 efficient workforce; the supreme court has directed the department of
11 labor and industries to initiate rule making regarding routine
12 monitoring of agriculture workers who are exposed to certain
13 pesticides. It is the intent of this act to guarantee that the safety
14 and health of workers is protected, and this can best be accomplished
15 through pilot project rule making to determine whether mandatory
16 medical monitoring is beneficial to workers and feasible considering
17 all of the technical requirements of such a regulation.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 17.21 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The department of agriculture and the department of labor and
4 industries shall initiate a pilot rule project, in accordance with RCW
5 34.05.313, to determine whether mandatory medical monitoring for class
6 one and class two organophosphate and carbamate pesticides is necessary
7 to insure worker safety. The pilot project shall be completed by
8 December 31, 2005.

9 (2) In accordance with RCW 34.05.350, the department of labor and
10 industries may adopt emergency rules necessary to protect the health
11 and safety of farmworkers.

12 (3) Funding for this pilot project will be obtained from the
13 industrial insurance medical aid and accident funds as defined in
14 chapter 51.44 RCW.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
17 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
18 immediately.

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