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SENATE BILL 5917

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2003 Regular Session

By Senators Schmidt, Kohl-Welles, Winsley, Regala and Shin

Read first time 02/20/2003. Referred to Committee on Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to preschool and elementary school students  
2 assisting in school kitchens; and adding a new section to chapter  
3 28A.235 RCW.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.235  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7            (1) Before any child in preschool through fifth grade is allowed to  
8 work or help in a school kitchen, a parental/guardian permission slip  
9 that details the duties and responsibilities, as well as the potential  
10 risks to the student, must be signed and returned to appropriate food  
11 service management.

12            (2) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with  
13 the Washington state school directors' association, parents, and  
14 representatives of food service employee groups, shall develop a policy  
15 to be implemented in all elementary schools for protecting children in  
16 preschool through fifth grade who assist in school kitchens. The  
17 policy must:

18            (a) Regulate exposure to hazardous equipment that is no less

1 stringent than restrictions adopted by the department of labor and  
2 industries for minors;

3 (b) Determine age-appropriate standards for physical activities  
4 including, but not limited to, lifting, pushing, or moving crates,  
5 carts, or other heavy equipment, consistent with federal occupational  
6 safety and health administration standards;

7 (c) Require that any injury requiring medical attention to a  
8 preschool through fifth grade student who is injured while working in  
9 a school kitchen be reported to the office of the superintendent of  
10 public instruction; and

11 (d) Require age-appropriate training.

12 (3) By January 1, 2004, the superintendent of public instruction  
13 shall verify that all districts are implementing the policy and report  
14 to the legislature.

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