

EHB 2185 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development

ADOPTED 04/13/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 51.36 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) The legislature finds that there is a need to clarify the  
6 process and standards under which the department provides residence  
7 modification assistance to workers who have sustained catastrophic  
8 injury.

9 (2) The director shall adopt rules that take effect no later than  
10 nine months after the effective date of this section to establish  
11 guidelines and processes for residence modification pursuant to RCW  
12 51.36.020(7).

13 (3) In developing rules under this section, the director shall  
14 consult with interested persons, including persons with expertise in  
15 the rehabilitation of catastrophically disabled individuals and  
16 modifications for adaptive housing.

17 (4) These rules must address at least the following:

18 (a) The process for a catastrophically injured worker to access the  
19 residence modification benefits provided by RCW 51.36.020; and

20 (b) How the department may address the needs and preferences of the  
21 individual worker on a case-by-case basis taking into account  
22 information provided by the injured worker. For purposes of  
23 determining the needs and requirements of the worker under RCW  
24 51.36.020, including whether a modification is medically necessary, the  
25 department must consider all available information regarding the  
26 medical condition and physical restrictions of the injured worker,  
27 including the opinion of the worker's attending health services  
28 provider.

29 (5) The rules should be based upon nationally accepted guidelines  
30 and publications addressing adaptive residential housing. The

1 department must consider the guidelines established by the United  
2 States department of veterans affairs in their publication entitled  
3 "Handbook for Design: Specially Adapted Housing," and the  
4 recommendations published in "The Accessible Housing Design File" by  
5 Barrier Free Environments, Inc.

6 (6) In developing rules under this section, the director shall  
7 consult with other persons with an interest in improving standards for  
8 adaptive housing.

9 (7) The director shall report by December 2007 to the appropriate  
10 committees of the legislature on the rules adopted under this section."

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11 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "workers;" strike the  
12 remainder of the title and insert "and adding a new section to chapter  
13 51.36 RCW."

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