
HOUSE BILL 1886

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Simpson, B. Sullivan and Chase

Read first time 02/09/2005. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to reducing the environmental impact of cleaning in
2 state facilities; adding a new chapter to Title 70 RCW; and declaring
3 an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that cleaning products
6 are necessary for creating and maintaining sanitary conditions in state
7 facilities and workplaces. However, chemicals contained in cleaning
8 products can be released to the environment during normal use by
9 evaporation of volatile components or by leaving residue on cleaned
10 surfaces. Choosing less hazardous cleaning products for use in our
11 workplaces and our facilities and taking steps to reduce exposure can
12 minimize harmful impacts to office and custodial workers, improve
13 indoor air quality, and reduce water and ambient air pollution.
14 Purchasing and appropriate use of products that perform well and that
15 have positive environmental attributes such as biodegradability, low
16 toxicity, low volatile organic compound content, reduced packaging, and
17 low life cycle energy use can reduce the environmental impact of
18 routine cleaning activities while also ensuring cleaning effectiveness.
19 Therefore, the legislature finds that the adoption of practices to

1 select, procure, and use environmentally preferred products will
2 benefit the environment and the health and safety of workers and
3 visitors to state facilities.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) All state agencies shall procure and use
5 cleaning products having properties that minimize potential impacts to
6 human health and the environment consistent with maintenance of the
7 effectiveness of these products for the protection of public health and
8 safety. For purposes of this act, "state agency" means any office,
9 department, division, bureau, board, commission, or other agency of the
10 state of Washington or of any subdivision thereof.

11 (2) The department of general administration, in consultation with
12 the department of health and the department of ecology, shall provide
13 consultation and guidance to state agencies to:

14 (a) Select and procure products and use practices that reduce or
15 minimize the risks of harmful effects to employees, custodial workers,
16 visitors, and other building occupants and to the environment;

17 (b) Promote adoption of practices endorsed by this chapter;

18 (c) Recognize state agencies that adopt and implement
19 environmentally beneficial facility and workplace management policies
20 and practices;

21 (d) Encourage contractors supplying goods and services to state
22 agencies to select and procure such products; and

23 (e) Encourage lessors and building managers who provide leased
24 space to state agencies to select and procure such products.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) When procuring cleaning products, state
26 agencies shall purchase environmentally preferred products or document
27 the reasons for selecting alternative products. Such products shall
28 conform to guidance for environmentally preferred purchasing of
29 cleaning products that may be provided under section 2 of this act, or
30 shall be products that have been identified by the department of
31 general administration as compliant with this chapter and made
32 available through a central purchasing contract.

33 (2) Each state agency shall assign an individual within such agency
34 who shall:

35 (a) Assess current facility management practices and use of
36 cleaning products;

1 (b) Evaluate whether these products conform to section 2 of this
2 act;

3 (c) Identify and procure conforming cleaning products; and

4 (d) Document the reasons for selecting products that do not conform
5 to section 2 of this act and include these reasons in the report
6 required by subsection (3) of this section.

7 (3) Within one year of the effective date of this act, the
8 department of general administration and the chief executive of each
9 state agency shall prepare an assessment, which shall be retained as a
10 document available to employees and the general public, of the efforts
11 undertaken by such state agency to comply with this chapter. This
12 document shall be reviewed and updated biennially.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Local governments and school districts are
14 encouraged to review their purchasing and use of cleaning products and
15 select those having properties that minimize potential impacts to human
16 health and the environment consistent with section 2 of this act. The
17 department of general administration must offer any assistance as may
18 be appropriate to assist local governments and school districts to
19 achieve the goals of this chapter, including, but not limited to,
20 assistance with procurement.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** State agencies shall transition to cleaning
22 products having properties that minimize potential impacts to human
23 health and the environment within six months of the effective date of
24 this act in a manner that avoids waste of existing inventories,
25 accommodates establishment of supply chains for new products, enables
26 the training of personnel in appropriate work practices, and allows the
27 phase out of products and practices inconsistent with this chapter.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate
29 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
30 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
31 immediately.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act constitute

1 a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

--- END ---