
SENATE BILL 5468

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators King, Keiser, Kohl-Welles, and Conway; by request of Department of Labor & Industries

Read first time 01/22/15. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing the use of nonappropriated funds
2 on certain administrative costs and expenses of the stay-at-work and
3 self-insured employer programs; and adding new sections to chapter
4 51.44 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 51.44
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) Moneys used for administrative expenses to assist employers
9 with developing a stay-at-work program and other related services
10 that respond to employer needs or employee needs, or both, in the
11 stay-at-work program as they arise is subject to the allotment of all
12 expenditures pursuant to chapter 43.88 RCW. However, an appropriation
13 is not required for expenditures. Administrative expenses include,
14 but are not limited to, the salaries and expenses of staff required
15 to implement the services and travel, goods, and services necessary
16 to conduct these activities. The department must use stay-at-work
17 program premiums to pay for these services. The department must seek
18 the advice of the workers' compensation advisory committee prior to
19 accessing these funds.

20 (2) The director must appoint a stay-at-work advisory committee
21 composed of six members: Three representing large and small employers

1 and three representing labor. At least one member of the committee
2 must be a small business owner as defined by RCW 34.05.110(9)(a) or
3 must represent a group primarily made up of small businesses.
4 Appointed members representing employers must have experience working
5 directly with the stay-at-work program. Statewide business and labor
6 organizations, representing large and small employers, must provide
7 the director with recommendations for people to serve on the
8 committee. The department must provide staff support for this
9 committee.

10 (3) The members must serve three-year terms. Terms of the members
11 representing employers and labor must be staggered such that the
12 director must designate one member from each group initially
13 appointed whose term must expire after one year and one member from
14 each group whose term must expire after two years. The remainder of
15 the initial group must be appointed for three-year terms. Thereafter,
16 members must be appointed for three-year terms.

17 (4) The members must serve without compensation, but must be
18 entitled to travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and
19 43.03.060. All expenses of this committee must be paid by the
20 department.

21 (5) This committee must review department proposals, submitted by
22 the director, to spend nonappropriated stay-at-work program premiums
23 for administrative expenses as defined under subsection (1) of this
24 section, and make recommendations to the workers' compensation
25 advisory committee for their consideration.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 51.44
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 Moneys used for administrative costs for one-time projects
29 requested by self-insured employers and that will support the self-
30 insured employer program is subject to the allotment of all
31 expenditures pursuant to chapter 43.88 RCW. However, an appropriation
32 is not required for expenditures. Administrative costs include, but
33 are not limited to, the salaries and expenses of staff required to
34 implement the one-time projects and travel, goods, and services
35 necessary to conduct these activities. The department must use self-
36 insured employer administrative assessments to cover the costs of

1 these services. The department must seek support from self-insured
2 employers prior to accessing these funds.

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