
HOUSE BILL 1542

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Bronoske, Fosse, Berry, Hackney, Abbarno, Griffey, Walsh, Ortiz-Self, Taylor, Ramel, Simmons, Jacobsen, Schmidt, Graham, Ormsby, Pollet, Kloba, Doglio, Bateman, Macri, Leavitt, and Timmons

Read first time 01/24/23. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring automated external defibrillators to
2 be available and accessible when work is being performed on high
3 voltage lines and equipment; adding a new section to chapter 49.17
4 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 49.17
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) Any employer with employees who operate, maintain, or
9 construct high voltage lines and equipment or who conduct line-
10 clearance tree trimming in close proximity to high voltage lines and
11 equipment shall:

12 (a) Make an automated external defibrillator available and
13 accessible to employees when work is being performed on, or in close
14 proximity to, high voltage lines and equipment by two or more
15 employees;

16 (b) Conduct regular maintenance and annual inspections of the
17 automated external defibrillator to ensure operability and
18 availability; and

19 (c) Provide training or facilitate the provision of training to
20 ensure there are at least two employees proficient on the proper and
21 safe use of the automated external defibrillator at any site

1 involving work on, or in close proximity to, high voltage lines and
2 equipment. To be considered proficient, an employee must have
3 completed initial or updated training within the previous two years.

4 (2) For the purposes of this section, "high voltage lines and
5 equipment" refers to any energized communication line, electric
6 supply line, or equipment with a voltage of 601 or greater.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect January 1, 2024.

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