

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0089

Workplace safety-employer assistance.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Lubnau, Burkhart and
Throne and Senator(s) Bebout

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to workplace safety; providing for grants
2 to enhance workplace safety; specifying conditions for
3 grants; providing rulemaking authority; providing for
4 additional consultation positions; transferring positions;
5 providing for reports; providing appropriations; and
6 providing for an effective date.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-2608 is created to read:

11

12 **9-2-2608. Workplace safety grant program.**

13

14 (a) The department of workforce services shall
15 administer a program of workplace safety grants as provided
16 in this section.

1

2 (b) Upon application from a public or private
3 employer, the department may provide grants to the employer
4 to increase and provide for effective participation in
5 workplace safety programs created and administered under
6 title 27, chapter 11 or 14 of Wyoming statutes. Grant
7 recipients under this section shall:

8

9 (i) Document the number of employees covered
10 under the workplace safety programs created or enhanced by
11 the grant;

12

13 (ii) Document decreases in occupational hazards
14 accomplished through participation in the workplace safety
15 programs.

16

17 (c) The department shall promulgate rules and
18 regulations for administration of the grant program
19 provided in this section. Grants under this section shall
20 be conditioned on the following:

21

22 (i) The recipient of the grant initiating or
23 participating in a workplace safety program created and

1 administered under title 27, chapter 11 or 14 of Wyoming
2 statutes;

3

4 (ii) An in-cash cost sharing contribution of at
5 least ten percent (10%) from the employer;

6

7 (iii) No grant under this program shall be made
8 to any individual employer in excess of ten thousand
9 dollars (\$10,000.00);

10

11 (iv) Funds granted under this section shall be
12 used solely for enhancement or implementation of workplace
13 safety programs, including for assistance in the purchase
14 of safety equipment necessary to carry out the programs
15 created and administered under title 27, chapter 11 or 14
16 of Wyoming statutes.

17

18 (c) The department shall report on grants issued
19 under this section to the joint minerals, business and
20 economic development interim committee on or before October
21 1, 2013 and by October 1 annually thereafter. Reports
22 submitted under this subsection shall include, but not be
23 limited to, information for the time period since the
24 submittal of the last report, including:

1

2 (i) Total number of grants issued;

3

4 (ii) Total amount of funds granted;

5

6 (iii) Number of employees covered under
7 workplace safety programs created or enhanced under this
8 section; and

9

10 (iv) The total number of employees injured or
11 killed while working for employers who participate in the
12 program, including:

13

14 (A) The percent increase or decrease of
15 employees injured or killed while working for employers who
16 received a grant under the program during the reporting
17 period and for the last five (5) years when that
18 information becomes available; and

19

20 (B) A comparison by industry and job
21 classification of the percentage of employees injured or
22 killed while working for employers who received a grant
23 under the program and employees injured or killed while
24 working for employers who did not receive a grant under the

1 program for the reporting period and for the last five (5)
2 years when that information becomes available.

3

4 **Section 2.** W.S. 9-2-2601(g)(v), (vi) and by creating
5 a new paragraph (vii) is amended to read:

6

7 **9-2-2601. Department of workforce services; duties**
8 **and responsibilities; agreements with other agencies**
9 **authorized; definition; merger with department of**
10 **employment.**

11

12 (g) The department shall take appropriate steps to:

13

14 (v) Conduct and publish results of
15 investigations and research studies; ~~and~~

16

17 (vi) Assist the Wyoming workforce development
18 council and the state youth council in pursuing their
19 missions and goals; ~~and~~ and

20

21 (vii) Administer grants pursuant to W.S.
22 9-2-2608.

23

24 **Section 3.**

1

2 (a) There is appropriated two hundred fifty thousand
3 dollars (\$250,000.00) from the Wyoming industrial accident
4 fund to the department of workforce services. This
5 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the
6 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2014. This
7 appropriation shall only be expended for the purpose of
8 funding grants under W.S. 9-2-2608 created by this act.
9 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
10 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
11 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
12 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
13 by law on June 30, 2014.

14

15 (b) The occupational health and safety division is
16 authorized an additional five (5) full-time equivalent
17 positions to be retained as occupational health and safety
18 consultants and not compliance officers. In addition,
19 two(2) full-time equivalent positions shall be allocated
20 from the department of workforce services to the
21 occupational health and safety division. The positions
22 shall be as determined by the governor and shall be filled
23 only for the purposes of increasing occupational health and
24 safety consultations. The funding associated with the

1 transferred positions shall be transferred from the Wyoming
2 industrial accident fund to the occupational health and
3 safety division. There is additionally appropriated one
4 million thirty-five thousand nine hundred eighteen dollars
5 (\$1,035,918.00) from the Wyoming industrial accident fund
6 to the occupational health and safety division. This
7 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the
8 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2014. This
9 appropriation shall only be expended for the purpose of
10 funding the five (5) additional full-time equivalent
11 positions authorized by this subsection only for
12 occupational health and safety consultations.
13 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
14 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
15 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
16 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
17 by law on June 30, 2014. Funding for the seven (7)
18 positions specified in this subsection shall be included in
19 the division's 2015-2016 standard biennial budget request.
20

1 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
4 Constitution.

5

6

(END)