

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0089

Workplace safety-employer assistance.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Lubnau, Burkhardt 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 appropriations; and providing for an effective
6 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 **Section 2.** W.S. 9-2-2601(g)(v), (vi) and by creating
19 a new paragraph (vii) is amended to read:

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21 **9-2-2601. Department of workforce services; duties**
22 **and responsibilities; agreements with other agencies**
23 **authorized; definition; merger with department of**
24 **employment.**

1

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

3

4 (v) Conduct and publish results of
5 investigations and research studies;~~and~~

6

7 (vi) Assist the Wyoming workforce development
8 council and the state youth council in pursuing their
9 missions and goals;~~and~~ and

10

11 (vii) Administer grants pursuant to W.S.

12 9-2-2608.

13

14 **Section 3.**

15

16 (a) There is appropriated two hundred fifty thousand
17 dollars (\$250,000.00) from the Wyoming industrial accident
18 fund to the department of workforce services. This
19 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the
20 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2014. This
21 appropriation shall only be expended for the purpose of
22 funding grants under W.S. 9-2-2608 created by this act.
23 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
24 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any

1 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
2 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
3 by law on June 30, 2014.

4
5 (b) The occupational health and safety division is
6 authorized an additional five (5) full-time equivalent
7 positions to be retained as occupational health and safety
8 consultants and not compliance officers. In addition,
9 three (3) full-time equivalent positions shall be allocated
10 from the department of workforce services to the
11 occupational health and safety division. The positions
12 shall be as determined by the governor and shall be filled
13 only for the purposes of increasing occupational health and
14 safety consultations. The funding associated with the
15 transferred positions shall be transferred from the Wyoming
16 industrial accident fund to the occupational health and
17 safety division. There is additionally appropriated one
18 million thirty-five thousand nine hundred eighteen dollars
19 (\$1,035,918.00) from the Wyoming industrial accident fund
20 to the occupational health and safety division. This
21 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the
22 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2014. This
23 appropriation shall only be expended for the purpose of
24 funding the five (5) additional full-time equivalent

1 positions authorized by this subsection only for
2 occupational health and safety consultations.
3 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
4 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
5 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
6 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
7 by law on June 30, 2014. Funding for the eight (8)
8 positions specified in this subsection shall be included in
9 the division's 2015-2016 standard biennial budget request.

10

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

15

16 (END)