

HB 1818 -- Workplace Safety

Sponsor: Walsh

This bill establishes the Occupational Safety Standards Commission within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to promulgate, modify, or revoke safety and health standards in the state. The commission will consist of nine members including three appointed by the Governor, three by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and three by the President Pro Tem of the Senate.

Employers are required to conform to safety standards as required by the department to ensure a safe workplace. Safety standards throughout the full range of types of employment are to be examined for appropriateness, compliance, and effectiveness. The commission's recommendations will provide employees and employers assurance to the extent feasible that employees will not suffer impairment of health or functional capacity due to exposure to hazards at their workplace.

Procedures to alleviate conditions of imminent danger to employees are specified in the bill as well as penalties for employers in violation of prescribed safety standards.