

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: August 2, 2010
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: SB 477
AUTHOR: D. Florez

BILL SUMMARY: Employment: Heat Illness Prvention

This bill would codify existing regulations related to preventing heat illness and place specific requirements on employers to prevent heat illness for employees engaged in outdoor work.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The regulations to be codified have been in place since 2005 and have been incorporated into the regular enforcement workload of the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH). Additionally, the Legislature approved a permanent increase in base federal funds for DOSH commencing in 2010-11. Included in the approved request are 14 redirected positions and \$2.3 million annually for the "Targeted Agricultural Enforcement Program". This program includes, in part, specific activities related to heat illness prevention primarily in agriculture and construction industries. Therefore, codifying existing heat illness regulations would have a minimal, if any, fiscal effect on DIR.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Amendments to this bill since our analysis of the August 17, 2009 version are minor and do not change our position.

COMMENTS

In 2005, the Governor ordered the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board to adopt emergency regulations to require employers to protect employees who work outdoors from heat related illness. In that year 12 workers died from heat exposure, the highest number of heat related employee deaths recorded. Since then DOSH has targeted the agricultural and construction industries for enforcement of the regulations.

This bill codifies the regulations and addresses the following:

- provision of water and shade and limits activities at specified temperatures,
• provision of "cool down" rest when an employee needs to protect him or herself from overheating,
• observation of employees for signs or symptoms of heat illness,
• requires the employer to provide training on specified topics related to heat, and
• requires the employer to provide heat procedures in writing and make the written procedures available to DOSH.

Analyst/Principal Date Assistant Program Budget Manager Date
(0250)

Department Deputy Director Date

Governor's Office: By: Date: Position Approved
Position Disapproved

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

BILL ANALYSIS/ENROLLED BILL REPORT--(CONTINUED)

AUTHOR

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Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO	PROP							
	RV	98	FC	2010-2011	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	
9990/Var Depts	SO	No		-----	See Fiscal Analysis	-----			0001