

House Bill 2539

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Clarifies meaning of "provide consultative services" to require Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services to provide incentive to small employers to participate in consultative services, to provide maximum allowable protection from fines and penalties to small employers that participate in consultative services and to promote consultative services to small business community.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to small employer compliance with the Oregon Safe Employment Act; amending ORS
3 654.090.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 654.090 is amended to read:

6 654.090. In order to carry out the purposes of ORS 654.001 to 654.295, 654.412 to 654.423 and
7 654.750 to 654.780 and encourage voluntary compliance with occupational safety and health laws,
8 regulations and standards and to promote more effective workplace health and safety programs, the
9 Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall:

10 (1) Develop greater knowledge and interest in the causes and prevention of industrial accidents,
11 occupational diseases and related subjects through:

12 (a) Research, conferences, lectures and the use of public communications media;

13 (b) The collection and dissemination of accident statistics; and

14 (c) The publication and distribution of training and accident prevention materials, including
15 audio and visual aids.

16 (2) Appoint advisers who shall, without compensation, assist the director in establishing stan-
17 dards of safety and health. The director may adopt and incorporate in its regulations, rules and
18 standards such safety and health recommendations as it may receive from such advisers.

19 (3) Provide consultative services for employers on safety and health matters and prescribe pro-
20 cedures which will permit any employer to request a special inspection or investigation, focused on
21 specific problems or hazards in the place of employment of the employer or to request assistance in
22 developing a plan to correct such problems or hazards, which will not directly result in a citation
23 and civil penalty. **For purposes of this subsection, "provide consultative services" includes:**

24 (a) **Providing incentive to small employers to participate in consultative services.**

25 (b) **Providing maximum allowable protection from fines and penalties to small employers**
26 **that participate in consultative services.**

27 (c) **Promoting consultative services to the small business community.**

28 (4) Place emphasis, in the research, education and consultation program, on development of a
29 model for providing services to groups of small employers in particular industries and their em-
30 ployees.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (5) Separately administer the voluntary compliance and research, education and consultation
2 activities described in this section and the enforcement activities described in ORS 654.025 to
3 654.086.

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