

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

Bil Analysis

Bil No. SSB 5491

Requiring use of apprentices on large public works projects.

Brief title

Hearing Date 3/31/99

Senator Cost Roach and Franklin
Sponsor (s)

Staff Steve Andin
State Government Committee
Phone 786-7127

BACKGROUND:

1. Public Works.

Public works projects are work, construction, repair, or improvement other than regular maintenance done for state agencies and local governments. Depending on a number of factors, public works projects may be performed by public employees or contracted to be performed.

2. Apprenticeships.

A six-member apprenticeship is appointed by the director of the Department of Labor and Industries, composed of three members from employer organizations and three members from labor organizations. Members serve three-year staggered terms. The apprenticeship is established for apprenticeships to rules related apprenticeships and approves apprenticeship agreements.

An apprenticeship agreement is an individual agreement between an employer and apprentice, written agreement between an employer and an association of employers, or a written statement describing conditions of employment for an apprentice. The agreement is a bona fide employer organization. An apprenticeship agreement must:

- Indicate the trade or craft to be taught and require at least 2000 hours of reasonably continuous employment for completion of the apprenticeship.
- Include a statement of the process of the trade or craft to be taught and the approximate amount of time to be spent in each process.
- Include the number of hours to be spent by an apprentice in related and supplemental instruction, which must be at least 4 hours per year.

- Provide a progressively increasing wage to be paid to the apprentice.
- Allow an apprentice to transfer to another employer if the employer is unable to fulfill the obligation under the apprenticeship agreement.

SUMMARY :

All contracts for public works that are estimated to cost \$1 million or more must require that at least 10 percent of the labour hours performed by apprentices who are enrolled in apprenticeship programs approved by the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council labour hours are the total hours of workers receiving wages who are directly employed-site of the public work project, including hours performed by workers employed by the contractor and subcontractors working on the project, but does not include hours worked by foremen, superintendents, workers who are not subject to prevailing wage requirements.

A contractor who fails to comply with this apprenticeship requirement is deemed to be in breach of the contract for which the state or local government is the employer. Remedial action is allowed under the contract. Failure to comply with this apprenticeship requirement may be considered evidence of a contractor's inability to perform on future contracts.

FISCAL NOTE : Not requested.

EFFECTIVE DATE : Ninety days after adjournment of session which it is passed.