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HOUSE BILL 1978

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Goldsmith, Kremen, Fuhrman, Schoesler, Pelesky, Thompson, Casada and Silver

Read first time 02/20/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to industrial insurance coverage for student  
2 volunteers; amending RCW 51.12.170; and declaring an emergency.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 51.12.170 and 1994 c 246 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) An employer covered under this title may elect to include  
7 student volunteers as employees or workers for all purposes relating to  
8 medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW. The employer shall give  
9 notice of its intent to cover all of its student volunteers to the  
10 director prior to the occurrence of the injury or contraction of an  
11 occupational disease.

12 (2) A student volunteer is an enrolled student in a public school  
13 as defined in RCW 28A.150.010 or a private school approved under RCW  
14 28A.195.010 who is participating as a volunteer under a program  
15 authorized by the ((public)) school pursuant to rules adopted by the  
16 state board of education providing for school credit for work  
17 experience. The student volunteer shall perform duties for the  
18 employer without wages. The student volunteer shall be deemed to be a  
19 volunteer even if the student is granted maintenance and reimbursement

1 for actual expenses necessarily incurred in performing his or her  
2 assigned or authorized duties. A person who earns wages for the  
3 services performed is not a student volunteer.

4 (3) Any and all premiums or assessments due under this title on  
5 account of service by a student volunteer shall be paid by the employer  
6 who has registered and accepted the services of volunteers and has  
7 exercised its option to secure the medical aid benefits under chapter  
8 51.36 RCW for the student volunteers.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
11 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
12 effect immediately.

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