
SENATE BILL 5933

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Thibaudeau, Deccio, Fraser and Costa

Read first time 02/08/2001. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to reducing exposure in the home to carcinogens and
2 allergens; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds ordinary house dust
6 typically contains pesticides, carcinogens, lead, cadmium, bacteria,
7 mold, dust mites, and animal dander, and that the connection between
8 these pollutants and some common childhood diseases and injuries such
9 as asthma, allergies, lead poisoning, birth defects, learning
10 disabilities, and even cancer has been well-established. Studies have
11 indicated that a greater exposure to toxic chemicals and allergens
12 occurs in the home environment than in the outdoor environment, due to
13 the greater amount of time spent indoors. Public health agencies and
14 nongovernmental health organizations have begun public education
15 programs regarding cleaning methods and other measures that families
16 may use to reduce exposure to these pollutants. However, greater state
17 technical and financial assistance is needed for these programs to
18 reach more households.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 The department shall develop informational materials that address
4 methods of reducing exposure to indoor air pollutants in the home
5 environment. The department may distribute these materials, including
6 posting on the department's electronic web page, and make them
7 available for distribution through local health jurisdictions and
8 nongovernmental organizations. For purposes of this section, such
9 pollutants include smoke, dust mites, mold, pesticides, and
10 carcinogens. The informational materials shall include recommendations
11 on cleaning methods, furnishings, and home design features that help to
12 reduce such exposure.

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