



## Health Impact Review Request Form

Date of request: 03 / 30 / 2015

Requester: Representative Mia S. Gregerson (33<sup>rd</sup> LD)

*Note: Health impact reviews may only be requested by the Governor or a legislator.*

Staff Contact: Name: Kyla Shkerich

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### What is the subject of the Health Impact Review?

Bill

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Concerning Commercial Janitorial Services

Bill Draft

Draft Number: H-0915.3/15

Decision Package

*If possible, please attach a copy of the relevant portion/aspect of what you are requesting to be reviewed.*

Budget Proposal

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Should the Health Impact Review analyze the entire proposal or only a portion?

Entire

Portion

*If only a portion, please describe what portion(s) the review should analyze.*

Requested completion date: June / 30 / 2015

*If requesting less than a ten-day turnaround during session or less than a 60-day turnaround during the interim, please explain the reasons for the request (for example, needing a review completed in time for a committee hearing).*

Please consider completing the optional section on the back of this form, which will give the Board a sense of why this review has been requested.

**Washington State Board of Health**

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, WA 98504-7990 • Phone: 360-236-4110 • Fax: 360-236-4088

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**~ Optional ~**

*Please consider completing this optional section, which will give the Board a sense of why this review has been requested.*

**NOTE:** When conducting a health impact review, the Washington State Board of Health will consider various ways that a proposal might exacerbate or ameliorate health disparities. Completing this section will give the Board a head start by helping it understand the reasons why a review is being requested.

**Briefly describe how you think the proposal might impact health disparities and whether you believe the impact will be in a positive or negative direction.**

Lack of standards for janitorial work. The problem is that following the recent recession, building owners downsized their janitorial crew because of reduced occupancy. However, now the economy is improving and the occupancy rate is steadily increasing, the owners are still continuing to do with the same janitorial crew size. As a result, the square footage per shift has increased, and along with the increased workload, workplace injuries.

Apparently, this is not a new issue to the committee. Last year Rep Reykdal and Chair Sells asked L&I to work with stakeholders to develop recommendations for revising standards for safe workloads and health and safety training for janitorial workers.

There was a workgroup convened and some recommendation. My concern that is not addressed: How can we best create a safe working environment for these workers. One of the hurdles is that there are not enough medical/research studies, so unless everyone agrees to solutions, it is an uphill climb to support specific limits on square footage/lifting requirements.

**Also:**

Current data from L&I show that women and English as a second language (immigrant) janitors have a disproportionate amount of accepted injury claims. Additionally, janitors in Washington have ranked in the top ten for injuries over the last ten years and are currently rank #6 for risk of injury out of 313 industries. The Janitors' Workload Safety is expected to have a positive impact in the health and safety of janitors including women and people of color.

**Are there specific organizations or community groups you would like the Board to contact as part of this review if time allows?**

Matt Haney, Service Employees International Union Local 6 206.850.0487  
Rod Kauffman, Building Owners and Managers Association 206.622.8924  
Noah Seixas, UW Dept. of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences 206.685.7189  
Sarah Bright, WFSE 1488 253.297.9149  
Caroline Smith, L&I Epidemiologist 360.902.4528

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