

## CHAPTER 49

[House Bill No. 1117]

WORKERS' COMPENSATION—RETROSPECTIVE RATING PROGRAM—  
EMPLOYER GROUP PARTICIPATION

AN ACT Relating to requirements for workers' compensation employer group participation in the retrospective rating program; and amending RCW 51.16.035.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 16, chapter 289, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. as last amended by section 4, chapter 129, Laws of 1980 and RCW 51.16.035 are each amended to read as follows:

The department shall classify all occupations or industries in accordance with their degree of hazard and fix therefor basic rates of premium which shall be the lowest necessary to maintain actuarial solvency of the accident and medical aid funds in accordance with recognized insurance principles. The department shall formulate and adopt rules and regulations governing the method of premium calculation and collection and providing for a rating system consistent with recognized principles of workers' compensation insurance which shall be designed to stimulate and encourage accident prevention and to facilitate collection. The department may annually, or at such other times as it deems necessary to maintain solvency of the funds, readjust rates in accordance with the rating system to become effective on such dates as the department may designate.

The department may insure the workers' compensation obligations of employers as a group if the following conditions are met:

- (1) All the employers in the group are members of an organization that has been in existence for at least two years;
- (2) The organization was formed for a purpose other than that of obtaining workers' compensation coverage;
- (3) The occupations or industries of the employers in the organization are substantially similar, taking into consideration the nature of the services being performed by workers of such employers; and
- (4) ~~((The employers in the group constitute at least fifty percent of the total employers in such organization, and~~
- ~~(5)))~~ The formation and operation of the group program in the organization will substantially improve accident prevention and claim management for the employers in the group.

In providing an employer group plan under this section, the department may consider an employer group as a single employing entity for purposes of dividends or premium discounts.

Passed the House March 2, 1989.

Passed the Senate April 4, 1989.

Approved by the Governor April 19, 1989.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 19, 1989.

CHAPTER 50

[House Bill No. 1205]

MILITARY DISCHARGES—FREE RECORDATION

AN ACT Relating to recording of discharges; and amending RCW 73.04.030.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 1, chapter 38, Laws of 1943 and RCW 73.04.030 are each amended to read as follows:

Each county auditor of the several counties of the state of Washington shall record upon presentation without expense, in a suitable permanent record the ((honorable)) discharge of any veteran ((~~who was a resident of the county, at the time of his enlistment or induction into~~)) of the armed forces of the United States who is residing in the state of Washington.

Passed the House February 13, 1989.

Passed the Senate April 4, 1989.

Approved by the Governor April 19, 1989.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 19, 1989.

CHAPTER 51

[Substitute House Bill No. 1287]

ESCROW AGENTS—LICENSE RENEWAL—EXTENSION OF TIME

AN ACT Relating to the license renewal of escrow officers; and amending RCW 18.44.310.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 24, chapter 156, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. as amended by section 6, chapter 340, Laws of 1985 and RCW 18.44.310 are each amended to read as follows:

The license of an escrow officer shall be retained and displayed at all times by the certificated escrow agent, and when the officer ceases to represent the agent, the license shall cease to be in force. Notice of such termination shall be given by the next regular business day by the escrow agent to the director and such notice shall be accompanied by and include the surrender of the escrow officer's license. Failure to notify the director of