

SENATE BILL NO. 243

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR WARD

Introduced: 2/3/00

Referred: Labor and Commerce

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to and authorizing the use of insulated gloves as well as tools**
2 **equipped with insulated handles for certain electrical and telecommunications**
3 **work."**

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new
6 section to read:

7 FINDINGS RELATED TO USE OF INSULATED GLOVES FOR CERTAIN
8 ELECTRICAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORK. The legislature finds that the use
9 of insulated gloves in connection with electrical and telecommunications work is increasingly
10 more common and is now specifically authorized by federal regulations, including 29 C.F.R.
11 1910.268(b)(7), 1910.269(l)(2) and 1926.950(c)(1). In many situations, employees in the
12 electrical and telecommunications industry can perform their work more safely using insulated
13 gloves instead of tools equipped with insulated handles.

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 18.60 is amended by adding a new section to read:

1 **Sec. 18.60.076. Handling of conductive objects.** (a) Unless the employee
2 is insulated or guarded from the energized part or the energized part is insulated or
3 guarded from the employee, an employer may not allow an employee to approach or
4 take a conductive object closer to exposed parts that are energized at 5,000 volts or
5 more from phase-to-phase or phase-to-ground than the distance set out in 29 C.F.R.
6 1910.269, Tables R-6 to R-10, as amended, or in 29 C.F.R. 1926.950, Table B-1, as
7 amended. An employee may be insulated by using approved rubber gloves or by using
8 tools with approved insulating handles.

9 (b) The employee shall have the right to decide between using insulated or
10 rubber gloves or a tool with an insulated handle for a particular task.

11 (c) An employer may not be held liable for damages caused by an employee's
12 decision under (b) of this section.