

Introduced: 3/26/85  
Referred: Labor & Commerce

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL AND JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE BILL NO. 256

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to exposure to microwave radiation  
7 in the workplace."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 \* Section 1. AS 18.60.058 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 18.60.058. REPORTING OF INJURIES AND ILLNESSES. In the  
11 event of an employment accident that [WHICH] is fatal to an employee  
12 [ONE OR MORE EMPLOYEES], or that [WHICH] results in the overnight  
13 hospitalization of an employee, or that results in an employee being  
14 exposed to microwave radiation [ONE OR MORE EMPLOYEES], the employer  
15 shall report the accident by telephone, telegram, radio, or in person  
16 to the nearest office of the division of labor standards and safety.  
17 The report must relate the circumstances of the accident, the number  
18 of fatalities, and the extent of any injuries. The report must be  
19 made immediately but in no event later than 24 hours after receipt by  
20 the employer of information that the accident has occurred. In the  
21 event of an employment accident that [WHICH] is fatal to an employee,  
22 [ONE OR MORE EMPLOYEES] or that [WHICH] results in the overnight  
23 hospitalization of two or more employees, no equipment, material, or  
24 product related to the injury or fatality may be moved or altered  
25 until clearance is given by the department, except when compliance  
26 with this requirement would interfere for an unreasonable length of  
27 time with work or create additional hazards. If equipment, material,  
28 or products must be moved or altered before department clearance, the  
29 employer shall submit a detailed investigative report of the accident

1 to the division.

2 \* Sec. 2. AS 18.60.066 is amended to read:

3 Sec. 18.60.066. EMPLOYEE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAMS. (a) An  
4 employer shall conduct a safety education program for an employee  
5 before the employee performs a new work assignment that may result in  
6 the employee being exposed to a toxic or hazardous substance or micro-  
7 wave radiation for which the employee has not received safety instruc-  
8 tion as provided under (b) of this section.

9 (b) An employee safety instruction program shall inform the  
10 employee of

11 (1) [(A)] the location, properties, and known or suspected  
12 acute and chronic health effects of [THE] hazardous or toxic  
13 substances and microwave radiation to which the employee is or  
14 may be exposed in the workplace;

15 (2) [(B)] the nature of the operations that could result in  
16 exposure to hazardous or toxic substances or microwave radiation, as  
17 well as any necessary handling or hygienic practices or precautions;  
18 and

19 (3) [(C)] the location, purpose, proper use, and  
20 limitations of personal protective equipment used in the workplace.

21 \* Sec. 3. AS 18.60.068(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) The department shall print and make available to employers  
23 posters that contain notice of the provisions of this chapter relating  
24 to toxic and hazardous substances and microwave radiation.

25 \* Sec. 4. AS 18.60.068(b) is amended to read:

26 (b) An employer whose employees are or may be exposed in the  
27 workplace to a toxic or hazardous substance or to microwave radiation  
28 shall display the following information in a manner designed to notify  
29 the employees:

1 (1) a poster printed by the department under (a) of this  
2 section; and

3 (2) in the case of a toxic or hazardous substance, an OSHA  
4 form 20 or equivalent information for each toxic or hazardous sub-  
5 stance to which an employee may be exposed in the workplace

6 (A) under normal conditions of work; or

7 (B) during a reasonably foreseeable emergency, includ-  
8 ing equipment failure and rupture of containers.

9 \* Sec. 5. AS 18.60.105(a)(1) is amended to read:

10 (1) "be exposed" means

11 (A) in the case of a toxic or hazardous substance, to  
12 ingest, inhale, or absorb through the skin or eyes the [A] sub-  
13 stance, or fumes or other potentially harmful aspect of the [A]  
14 substance; and

15 (B) in the case of microwave radiation, to be in a  
16 field of microwave radiation that exceeds the level of intensity  
17 established as the radiation protection guide under regulations  
18 adopted by the department in section 04.0106 of subchapter 4,  
19 Occupational Health and Environmental Control Code;