

SB

24

Bill No. Senate Bill 24  
Title "An Act relating to physical agents."

Date January 22, 1987  
Contact: Eileen Plate  
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Under existing law, employers are required to provide information and training to employees on certain toxic and hazardous substances. This bill seeks to expand this "Right-to-Know" law to include physical agents.

Physical agents are defined as those listed in the "Threshold Limit Values for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents in the Work Environment" as published by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. The latest edition of this publication lists the following physical agents:

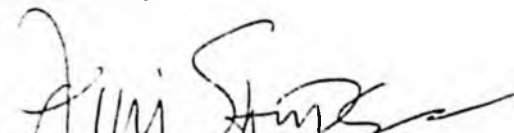
- Heat Stress
- Ionizing Radiation
- Lasers
- Noise
- Impulse or Impact Noise
- RF/Microwave Radiation
- Ultraviolet Radiation
- Airborne Upper Sonic and Ultrasonic Acoustic Radiation
- Cold Stress
- Hand-Arm (Segmental) Vibration

Exposure to physical agents can result in permanent disabilities, such as deafness. Often employers and employees are not aware of the harmful effects of a particular hazard present in the workplace, and the training and information requirements provided in this bill would assist in filling this void. This would, in turn, effect implementation of protective measures by the employer to safeguard employees, as well as provide employees with an understanding of the importance of following safe and healthful work practices.

As part of its Occupational Safety and Health program, the Department of Labor enforces regulations to protect employees from certain physical hazards (ionizing radiation, lasers, noise, RF/Microwave radiation, and ultraviolet radiation). The information and training requirement of this bill would, therefore, enhance the Department's efforts to protect Alaska's workers.

The Department of Labor supports Senate Bill No. 24. It will not have a fiscal impact on the Department.

APPROVED:

  
Jim Sampson, Commissioner  
Department of Labor

**POSITION PAPER/**Department of Labor

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE**

**REQUEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Version: SB 24  
Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: Labor  
BRU: Occupational Safety & Health

Title: "An Act relating to  
physical agents."

Sponsor: Josephson

Components: Occupational Safety  
& Health

Requestor: HESS

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

<b>CAPITAL</b>						
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<b>REVENUE</b>						
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**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

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Division: Labor Standards & Safety

Phone: 465-4870  
Date: 1/23/87

Approved by Commissioner: Jim Sampson *JS*  
Agency: Labor

Date: 1/23/87

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