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HOUSE BILL 1056

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State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Mosbrucker and Orwall

Prefiled 12/14/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a task force to identify the role of  
2 the workplace in helping curb domestic violence; creating new  
3 sections; and providing expiration dates.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that domestic  
6 violence causes physical and psychological harm, broken families,  
7 economic loss, and other societal ills. According to the center for  
8 disease control's national intimate partner and sexual violence  
9 survey, about one in three women and one in three men reported  
10 experiencing intimate partner violence in their lifetime. In  
11 Washington in 2017, over fifty-four thousand domestic violence  
12 offenses were reported to law enforcement and forty-nine domestic  
13 violence homicides were committed.

14 (2) The legislature finds that the workplace may be the only  
15 location in which an individual experiencing domestic violence may be  
16 free from a perpetrator and feel safe. Individuals experiencing  
17 domestic violence may also find the workplace a place of shared  
18 confidences. Therefore, the legislature intends to create a task  
19 force to explore ways in which the employer and employee community  
20 may help curb domestic violence.

21 (3) This section expires June 30, 2020.

1        NEW SECTION.

2        **Sec. 2.**

3        (1) A joint legislative task force on  
4        domestic violence and workplace resources is created to identify the  
5        role of the workplace in helping to curb domestic violence.

6        (2) The members of the task force are as provided in this  
7        subsection.

8        (a) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from  
9        each of the two largest caucuses in the senate.

10       (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one  
11       member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of  
12       representatives.

13       (c) The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
14       representatives shall jointly appoint:

15       (i) One member representing each of the following:

16       (A) The association of Washington business;

17       (B) The national federation of independent business;

18       (C) The Washington hospitality association;

19       (D) The Washington retail association;

20       (E) The Washington state labor council;

21       (F) The Washington coalition of sexual assault programs;

22       (G) The Washington coalition against domestic violence; and

23       (H) A federally recognized tribe;

24       (ii) A business owner;

25       (iii) A survivor of domestic violence; and

26       (iv) Up to two additional members.

27       (3) The task force shall choose two cochairs from among its  
28       legislative membership. The legislative members shall convene the  
29       initial meeting of the task force.

30       (4) The task force shall review the following issues:

31       (a) The role of the workplace in the lives of individuals  
32       experiencing domestic violence;

33       (b) The appropriate role of employers and employees in helping  
34       reduce the incidence of domestic violence; and

35       (c) Whether legislation is needed to address the issues outlined  
36       in this subsection.

37       (5) Staff support for the task force shall be provided by the  
38       senate committee services and the house of representatives office of  
39       program research.

40       (6) Legislative members of the task force must be reimbursed for  
      travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative  
      members, except those representing an employer or organization, are

1 entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW  
2 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

3 (7) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the  
4 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures are  
5 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee  
6 and the house of representatives executive rules committee or their  
7 successor committees.

8 (8) The task force shall submit its findings and recommendations  
9 to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2019.

10 (9) This section expires June 30, 2020.

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