



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2005

LCO No. 7327

SB0114707327SD0

Offered by:
SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1147 File No. 710 Cal. No. 493

"AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYEE HEALTH SECURITY."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) As used in sections 1 to 4,
4 inclusive, of this act:

5 (1) "Dependent" means the spouse, domestic partner, minor child of
6 an employee, or child eighteen years of age or over who is dependent
7 on the employee;

8 (2) "Covered employer" means: (A) On and after October 1, 2005, an
9 employer that employs five thousand or more employees, (B) on and
10 after October 1, 2006, an employer that employs two thousand five
11 hundred employees, (C) on and after October 1, 2007, an employer that
12 employs one thousand or more employees, and (D) on and after
13 October 1, 2008, an employer that employs five hundred or more
14 employees; and

15 (3) "Employer" means an employer that is subject to chapter 567 of
16 the general statutes, excluding the state, any political subdivision of
17 the state or any quasi-public agency, and includes a franchisor with
18 franchisees that employ collectively five thousand or more employees
19 in the state.

20 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) On and after January 1, 2006,
21 and annually thereafter, all covered employers shall pay a Health
22 Security Surcharge to the Commissioner of Social Services. Such
23 surcharge shall be equal to twenty-five per cent of the hourly
24 minimum wage then in effect, multiplied by the total number of hours
25 worked by each employee during the year for which the surcharge
26 applies, to a maximum of forty hours per week worked for each
27 employee. Each covered employer providing health care benefits or
28 making payments to an employee in lieu of health insurance benefits
29 declined by such employee shall receive a credit for the employer's
30 costs for all such health benefits, and for all such payments, against the
31 entirety of the surcharge due under this section. The surcharge,
32 reduced by any credit allowable under this section, shall be payable at
33 the time state income taxes, payable under chapter 208 or 229 of the
34 general statutes, as appropriate, are paid by the covered employer for
35 the applicable tax year. All amounts collected under this section shall
36 be deposited into the General Fund to defray the costs to the state of
37 providing health coverage to employees of covered employers. Any
38 funds in excess of those needed for such purpose shall be used to
39 defray additional state expenses for covering uninsured or
40 underinsured patients.

41 (b) Any new employer or existing employer that previously was not
42 subject to subsection (a) of this section shall, not later than one month
43 after the date it becomes a covered employer subject to said subsection
44 (a), begin complying with the provisions of said subsection (a).

45 (c) Any existing employer previously subject to subsection (a) of this
46 section, but no longer subject to said subsection (a), shall notify the
47 Commissioner of Social Services in a manner prescribed by that

48 department not later than fifteen days after such change before
49 discontinuing compliance with the provisions of said subsection (a).

50 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) No employer shall request or
51 otherwise seek to obtain information concerning income or other
52 eligibility requirements for any public health or medical assistance
53 programs regarding an employee, dependent or other family member
54 of an employee, other than that information about the employee's
55 employment status otherwise known to the employer consistent with
56 existing state and federal law and regulation.

57 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) The Commissioner of Social
58 Services, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Revenue Services,
59 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter
60 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the purposes of sections 1 to 3,
61 inclusive, of this act."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section