

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Ozment and others
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Analyst: Jayne Sprinthall Rankin 651-296-8079 Elisabeth M. Loehrke 651-296-5043

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- 1 Reducing occupational exposures to bloodborne pathogens through sharps injuries.** Adds new § 182.6555 to state OSHA statutes. In paragraph (a), requires employers to comply with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations on bloodborne pathogens, to eliminate or minimize employee exposure to bloodborne pathogens through sharps injuries. Paragraph (b) requires employers to annually review written exposure control plans, and to review the plans whenever necessary to reflect new tasks and procedures which affect occupational exposures, and to reflect new or revised employee positions with occupational exposures. Requires the plan to reflect changes in technology to eliminate or reduce bloodborne pathogens. The exposure control plan must document consideration and implementation of appropriate, commercially available and effective engineering controls that are designed to eliminate or minimize exposure. Paragraph (c) requires an employer's OSHA safety committee to make recommendations about the use of effective engineering controls. Permits an employer to meet this requirement through subcommittee of the safety committee. Requires employers who do not have to establish a safety committee to involve their employees in the evaluation of effective engineering controls. Paragraph (d) provides that the use of a prefilled syringe to deliver medication is permitted, if a prefilled syringe is the only way to deliver the medication. This permission expires January 1, 2003, or when safer technology is available. Paragraph (e) requires that employers establish internal procedures to document the route of exposure and the circumstances under which an exposure incident occurred. Specifies the types of information that must be documented.
- 2 Effective date.** Makes this bill effective 60 days after enactment.