

April 8, 2003

H 919. WORKPLACE SAFETY TAX CREDITS (=S 680). *TO ALLOW INCOME TAX CREDITS FOR VOLUNTARY WORKPLACE SAFETY EFFORTS BY EMPLOYERS.* Identical to S 680, introduced 4/2/03.

Intro. by Goodwin.

Ref. to Occupational Safety

GS 105

June 14, 2004

H 919. WORKPLACE SAFETY GRANTS AND TRAINING COURSES (NEW). Intro. 4/2/03. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. (1) Original bill added a new section to GS Chapter 105 to provide tax credits to eligible employers for voluntarily making certain workplace safety expenditures. The committee substitute deletes the provision for tax credits and replaces it with new GS 95-14.1, providing for direct payments of grants to the employer for up to 100% of the cost of the safety expenditures. (2) Under the original bill, an employer, to be eligible, had to be free for three years of certain Occupational Safety and Health Act violations. The committee substitute retains that requirement and adds a requirement that the employer also be free of significant and substantial violations of the Mine Safety and Health Act. (3) The committee substitute adds an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from the General Fund to the Dep't of Labor for fiscal 2004-2005 to fund the grants. (4) The committee substitute adds an appropriation of \$100,000 for fiscal 2004-2005 from the General Fund to the Dep't of Labor to establish a pilot program to provide non-English language safety training to workers in the construction industry. The pilot is to include training of up to three hours length at least once a month in each of the five counties in the state with the highest per capita number of Spanish-speaking construction worker deaths in 2003. Program expires June 30, 2005 (5) Participating construction companies that have at least 75% of their Spanish-speaking employees attend the safety course are to receive a certificate, good for three years, providing that, if there is a worker injury, any civil penalty considered by the Dep't of Labor in connection with the injury is to be reduced by at least half or waived, unless the injury was due to reckless or intentional misconduct. Effective July 1, 2004.