

SB 260: Protection for Workers in Poor Air Quality

What Bill Does

SB260 expands on existing workplace safety requirements instituted under NRS 618, mandating the creation of a workplace safety training program, implementation of mitigation strategies, and affords rights to employees who are exposed to poor air quality (AQI >150).

Who Bill Impacts

- Employers:

Employers with over 10 employees who are not providers of emergency services will be required to provide employees with training and written explanation of the requirements of SB260 (risks of wildfire smoke on personal health, personal mitigation strategies & their employers' responsibilities in poor AQI environments). SB260 requires for employers to monitor air quality, inform employees of when they may be exposed to poor air quality, and provide one of the following solutions when employees are exposed to poor air quality:

- Provide properly ventilated & air purified indoor spaces
- Relocate employees
- Reduce working hours
- Increase breaks
- Reduce physical activity
- Provide PPE (masks)

If none of the above measures are feasible for the employer and workplace AQI is in excess of 200, the employer will not require that the employee continue to work.

- Employees:

Expands on previously mandated workplace safety training, ensuring employees are informed of the risks of poor air quality and requires employers take additional measures to ensure a safe workplace environment. SB260 affords Employees with the rights to:

- Inform their employer of poor AQI
- Inform their employer that the poor AQI is having an effect on their health
- Protects employees from disciplinary/retaliatory action that may arise from reporting these conditions/symptoms.
- Allows employees to stop work if AQI >200 without penalty from the employer should the employer be unable to provide any of the above solutions.