



**PA 23-183**—sSB 1090

*Commerce Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE EMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN MINORS AS YOUTH CAMP STAFF MEMBERS AND LIFEGUARDS**

**SUMMARY:** This act (1) expressly allows 15-year-olds to work as youth camp staff members or lifeguards, subject to certain conditions, and (2) requires the labor commissioner to establish a pilot program allowing one amusement establishment to employ 15-year-olds in certain nonhazardous positions.

The act subjects 15-year-old lifeguards and youth camp staff members to existing law’s time and hour restrictions applicable to certain other jobs 14- and 15-year-olds can work. These restrictions generally limit 14- and 15-year-olds to working under the following parameters:

1. during school vacations when school is not in session for at least five consecutive days;
2. a maximum of 40 hours per week and eight hours per day; and
3. between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., or until 9:00 p.m. from July 1 to the first Monday in September.

Under the act, minors who have reached age 15 and are employed or working as a youth camp staff member or lifeguard must be supervised by someone age 18 or older.

Additionally, the act requires employers of 15-year-olds working as youth camp staff members or lifeguards to get and keep on file a certificate documenting the employee’s age (i.e., “working papers”) as existing law requires for employers of minors in certain industries or jobs. The act correspondingly requires public school superintendents and supervisory agents of non-public schools to issue working papers to 15-year-old applicants seeking to work in these occupations in the same manner that they do under existing law for other occupations requiring working papers. Municipalities and 15-year-old applicants seeking to work in these occupations for municipalities are exempt from these working paper requirements.

Lastly, the act makes conforming changes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon passage

**AMUSEMENT ESTABLISHMENT PILOT PROGRAM**

The act requires the labor commissioner, by July 1, 2023, to implement a pilot program authorizing one amusement establishment in the state to employ 15-year-olds in non-hazardous positions, including as cashiers in a ticket booth or food concession stand. She must do so regardless of existing state laws (1) setting the allowable times and hours of work for amusement establishment employees under age 18 and (2) allowing these employees to operate amusement rides or devices under certain circumstances.

## OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

Under the act, the amusement establishment and the 15-year-old employees participating in the pilot program are generally subject to the same supervision and working papers requirements and employment restrictions that the act applies to 15-year-olds working as youth camp staff members or lifeguards, except that amusement employees may work until 9:00 p.m. regardless of the calendar date.

Amusement establishments may apply for the program, as the labor commissioner prescribes, and the establishment participating in the program must give the commissioner any information she finds necessary for program evaluation.

The act ends the pilot program on August 27, 2023. It requires the labor commissioner, by February 1, 2024, to submit a report to the Commerce and Labor and Public Employees committees that includes recommendations on the need for a permanent program allowing amusement establishments to employ 15-year-olds in non-hazardous positions.