Attention Washington State School Districts:

Setting and releasing school bus parking brakes over and over throughout the work shift can leave drivers with sore or seriously injured right shoulders, elbows or wrists.

This is because:
- the parking brakes on most buses require an extended reach and a high push/pull force to operate; and
- drivers must repeat this action with each pickup and drop off.

Fortunately, school districts can take action to prevent or minimize risk for injuries like these. You can:

- request design changes from the school bus manufacturer for a before-market, permanent solution.
- check the PP-1(Push/Pull-1) valve on buses; if faulty, repair may reduce pushing and pulling forces.
- seek an approved retrofit kit for existing buses from the bus and brake system manufacturers.

Please share this bulletin with others in your industry and safety networks.

This bulletin was developed by L&I’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) to alert employers, labor groups, and employees to potential hazards associated with work activities. This is not a rule and creates no new legal obligations. The information provided includes suggested guidance on how to avoid workplace injuries. DOSH recommends you also check the related rules for additional requirements.

Get another copy of this document and find other resources for preventing workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses on our web site: [www.LNI.wa.gov/Safety](http://www.LNI.wa.gov/Safety)