

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5217, passed by the 2023 legislature and codified under RCW 49.17.520 and RCW 49.17.020(11), repealed the prohibition on rulemaking to prevent work related musculoskeletal injuries and disorders, and allows the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) to adopt one rule for either one industry or one risk classification in a 12-month period. No rule may be in effect before July 1, 2026.

On October 29, 2024, L&I announced it selected Scheduled Airlines – Ground Crew Operations under Risk Classification 6802, for the first rulemaking effort and initiated the formal rulemaking process.

I. Purpose and Objective of the Committee

Consistent with RCW 49.17.520(6), the purpose of the Scheduled Airlines Ground Crew Advisory Committee (Committee) is to provide recommendations to L&I during the rules development process. The Committee will provide input, recommendations, and advice on the development of the proposed rules, including input on draft proposed rules and effective dates. Committee members represent and serve as liaisons for employers and workers from the Scheduled Airlines Ground Crew Risk Class 6802 that will be subject to the rules.

Whenever possible, the goal of the committee is to have consensus on recommendations. If consensus is not reached, L&I will consider all information provided in formulating the proposed and adopted rules.

II. Membership

Members of the Committee

- Four representatives from employee advocacy organizations.
 - Matt Haney – Service Employees International Union, Local 6
 - Joe Kendo – Washington State Labor Council
 - Michael Mead – International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Local Lodge 2202
 - Brenda Wiest – Teamsters, Local 117
- Four representatives from employer and business advocacy organizations.
 - Lindsey Hueer – Association of Washington Business
 - Tara Perez – Delta Airlines
 - Cory Snyder – Airlines for America
 - Matthew Thomason – Alaska Airlines

Alternates:

Members who are unable to attend a meeting are encouraged to send an alternate authorized to serve as a proxy. Notice of the attendance of an authorized alternate should be sent to L&I before the meeting.

Other interested parties and subject matter experts:

In coordination with L&I, other interested parties and subject matter experts may be invited to attend the meeting and can participate as identified on the agenda, or as invited by the Committee or L&I.

III. Meetings

Unless otherwise requested by the members, meetings will be held virtually. Meetings are open to the public for any interested party may attend to observe the meeting.

L&I will coordinate with members on the scheduling of meetings. Generally, meetings will be scheduled as needed based on the status of the rule development process.

IV. L&I Role

- L&I support to the Committee:
 - Facilitate the meetings (as necessary) to ensure effective meetings.
 - Provide agency information on technical and procedural issues related to the rule development.
 - Schedule meetings via Zoom.
 - Develop agenda with input from Committee members and provide any material and presentations related to the discussions prior to the meeting.
 - Post Committee materials to the Scheduled Airline Ground Crew Operations, rulemaking webpage in advance of, and following, meetings.
 - Summarize meeting discussions, decisions, and action items/next steps.
 - Maintain records as part of the rule file.