



## Building Industry Association of Washington

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July 22, 2004

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Director Paul Trause  
Department of Labor & Industries  
PO Box 44001  
Olympia, WA 98504-4001

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES  
DEPT. OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES  
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

Dear Director Trause:

It has come to my attention that L&I is developing an ergonomics WISHA Regional Directive that would serve as a substitute for the ergonomic standards repealed by the voters in Initiative 841. This is a blatant violation of the law and subversion of the will of the voters. By approving Initiative 841 in 2003, the voters expressly repealed your ergonomics regulations and prohibited future rule making on ergonomics. Any attempt to enforce the repealed ergonomic standards by means of a newly adopted ergonomics policy is illegal. We will sue you.

Moreover, BIAW will file another initiative if necessary to repeal future ergonomic policies adopted by L&I. Initiative 841 was very successful in uniting the press, the public, the workers, and the business community against the pseudo-science and over-regulation of L&I bureaucrats. L&I spent millions of tax dollars attempting to justify bad science and ignored public comments against the ergonomic rule. Washington State is now a better place to live and work because the ergonomics rule was repealed. Washington State citizens will not tolerate an out of control agency that disregards the will of the voters and its laws.

Sincerely,

Tom McCabe  
Executive Vice President

P.S. Why didn't you fire the staff that promulgated the ergonomics rule? I warned you they would create mischief which is exactly what they're doing with this WRD.

cc: Initiative 841 supporters