

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1783

To require a change in a regulation under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 1995

Mrs. VUCANOVICH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities

A BILL

To require a change in a regulation under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. USE OF RESPIRATORS.**

4 In the implementation of the requirements of the Oc-
5 cupational Safety and Health Act respecting the use of
6 respirators by personnel operating within an immediately
7 dangerous to life and health atmosphere, the Secretary of
8 Labor shall change regulations published at 29 C.F.R.
9 1910.134(e)(3)(i) and (ii) to require that employers shall
10 develop and implement specific procedures for the use of

1 respirators in atmospheres where oxygen deficiency or the
2 concentrations of a hazardous chemical are unknown or
3 potentially immediately dangerous to the life or health
4 (IDLH) of the employees. These procedures shall include
5 the following provisions:

6 (1) The employee shall wear positive pressure
7 self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or com-
8 bination full facepiece pressure demand supplied air
9 respirator with auxiliary self-contained air supply.

10 (2) When an employee wears a respirator in an
11 IDLH atmosphere or in unknown or potentially
12 IDLH atmospheres where the employee could be
13 overcome if the respirator protection fails, the em-
14 ployer shall ensure that at least one additional per-
15 son located outside the IDLH atmosphere is in com-
16 munication with the employee in the IDLH atmos-
17 phere and able to provide effective emergency assist-
18 ance.

19 (3) Where employees enter IDLH atmospheres,
20 the employer shall ensure that they are equipped
21 with retrieval equipment for lifting or removing
22 them from the hazardous area or shall ensure that
23 equivalent provisions for rescue have been made.

1 (4) The emergency assistance personnel present
2 shall be equipped with a positive pressure self-con-
3 tained breathing apparatus.

○