

2021 DLI legislative initiatives

Apprenticeship federal conformity

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) proposes a legislative change to update state apprenticeship regulations to conform with federal apprenticeship requirements that promote equal employment opportunity protections for apprentices and applicants in registered apprenticeship programs.

DLI is the state apprenticeship registration agency and is recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor as the state apprenticeship authority in Minnesota. To maintain its federal recognition status, DLI must make efforts to conform with federal regulations 29 CFR 30, which outlines that equal employment opportunity regulations support inclusive workforce behavior and protect against discrimination.

Improve transparency of MNOSHA Citation Data

DLI proposes legislation that would classify MNOSHA citation data as public as soon as MNOSHA receives confirmation that the employer has received the citations. The proposal would allow MNOSHA to provide timely information to the public and stakeholders about its enforcement actions, which would encourage employers to take the necessary steps to keep their employees safe. Additionally, this legislation would align MNOSHA with other OSHA programs across the United States.

Construction Codes Advisory Council Membership

The Construction Codes Advisory Council (CCAC) reviews laws, codes, rules, standards and licensing requirements relating to building construction; reviews new model residential energy codes; evaluates required research and analysis; and reports its findings and recommendations to the commissioner of DLI. The purpose of CCAC is to comment on codes, rules and laws. However, there is currently no technical or policy representation from the associations and communities representing building energy efficiency and accessibility. DLI proposes to add an energy member and accessibility member to the CCAC.

Child labor data protection

DLI is proposing that certain personal data collected about minors in a child labor matter be deemed private, not public, data as defined in Minn. Stat. § 13.02, subd. 12. The agency found that there is no current protection of a minor's personal data retained by DLI for child labor exemption work applications it receives or related permits it issues, or for data obtained related to child labor investigations. As a result, a minor's name and personal contact information is not redacted from materials if requested. The purpose of this legislative change is to safeguard all minors who enter the workforce in Minnesota by preventing their personal contact information from being released.