

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER #194**

State of Wisconsin in 1980 enacted legislation giving public employees the same protection as that afforded employees in the private sector. In keeping with this tradition of progressiveness, a Governor's Executive Order was issued on July 30, 1993 to further advance the health and safety of State employees and reduce losses, both personal and economic, associated with workplace injuries and illnesses.

Read the below:

### **EXECUTIVE ORDER #194**

#### **Relating to workplace health and safety of state employees**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State of Wisconsin to provide a safe and healthful workplace for all state employees; and

**WHEREAS**, workplace injuries and illnesses produce human suffering, economic and social losses and impair the operating efficiency of state government; and

**WHEREAS**, workplace injuries and illnesses can be reduced or eliminated by systematic planning training, safe work practices and the effective use of hazard control measures; and

**WHEREAS**, occupational accident and illness prevention requires management and employee commitment, accountability, cooperation, and leadership at all levels of state government; and

**WHEREAS**, laws and regulations governing health and safety in the workplace apply to the operation of state government; and

**WHEREAS**, state government should lead by example by complying with all state and federal health and safety requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State do hereby: Proclaim that all state agencies, institutions and university campuses and centers must develop and promulgate a comprehensive written health and safety program whose purpose is to attain the following objectives:

1. Minimize the risk of occupational injuries and illness by the use of recommended loss prevention and control techniques.
2. Establish written performance/accountability standards and objectives for managers and supervisors to reduce occupational injuries and illnesses and enhance workplace health and safety.
3. Provide adequate health and safety training and education for managers, supervisors and employees.
4. Establish health and safety committees consisting of representatives from all levels and areas of the organization.
5. Promote health and safety awareness and safe work practices.
6. Establish a procedure for conducting periodic health and safety inspections/surveys so that potential hazards are detected and corrected or controlled in a timely manner.
7. Provide for increased compliance with all applicable State and Federal health and safety standards and regulations.
8. Designate an individual to serve as the organization's Health and Safety Coordinator to assist in directing its injury/illness prevention program.

9. Promote effective investigation and management of worker's compensation claims and the early return to work of injured employees using transitional work assignments and other rehabilitation strategies.

FURTHER, all written Health and Safety Programs must be submitted to the Department of Administration, Bureau of State Risk Management for approval and ongoing review. The Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations, Bureau of Safety Inspections will maintain its authority and final approval of worksite safety plans required through Chapter ILHR 32 - Administration Rules and the Bureau's inspection program.

The Department of Administration, Bureau of State Risk Management and the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations, Bureau of Safety Services will report annually to the Governor on progress in achieving improved worksite health and safety in State Government.

All state employees must be informed of this Executive Order, its intent and requirements for providing a safe and healthy workplace throughout state government.

**Tommy G. Thompson**  
**Governor**