

Chapter 144 of the Acts of 2014
AN ACT RESTORING THE MINIMUM WAGE AND PROVIDING
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE REFORMS

*Section enacting state employee coverage under OSHA
and/or other health and safety standards*

SECTION 26. Chapter 149 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 6 the following section:-

Section 6½. (a) This section shall apply to places of employment subject to section 28 of chapter 7. The department and the personnel administrator, after consulting with the advisory board established by subsection (b), shall jointly adopt regulations that shall provide at least the level of protection to employees as are provided under the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. chapter 15, including standards and provisions of the general duty clause contained in said chapter 15. In the absence of a state regulation, the department shall apply the applicable provisions of that act.

(b) The governor shall appoint an occupational health and safety hazard advisory board consisting of: the secretary of labor and workforce development or a designee, who shall serve as the co-chairperson; the personnel administrator or a designee, who shall serve as co-chairperson; the director of the division of labor standards or a designee; the secretary of administration and finance or a designee; the director of the office of employee relations or a designee; the commissioner of public health or a designee; the director of industrial accidents or a designee; 4 representatives from labor unions representing the employees of the commonwealth; 1 representative from a community-based health and safety advocacy organization; and 1 member of the faculty of the department of work environment at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. The advisory board shall evaluate injury and illness data, recommend training and implementation of safety and health measures, monitor the effectiveness of safety and health programs and determine where additional resources are needed to protect the safety and health of employees of the commonwealth.

(c) The attorney general may bring a civil action for declaratory or injunctive relief to enforce this section.

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2014/Chapter144>