



Take Action Today Protect Your Business From Longshore Insurance Changes

The Department of Labor (DOL) is proposing new rules that could mean your business will have to carry Longshore Insurance Protection in addition to workmans' compensation.

In February 2009, Congress passed an amendment to the Longshore Act removing workers who repair recreational vessels from coverage under the Longshore Act. The DOL has now proposed new rules and that will in effect reverse that amendment and require marinas that repair any type of vessels to purchase Longshore Insurance Protection.

The new rule would require a boatyard or marina that repairs ANY commercial vessels (this includes any vessel that engages in any commercial work such as pumpout boats and small fishing vessels), the employees working on that boat will have to be covered by Longshore. Since boatyards don't always know if they'll have commercial work, nor which employee will work on such vessel, all employees would have to be covered.

Take Action:

ABBRA is fighting these proposed changes and needs your assistance. Please take 20 minutes to email, submit comments, or send a letter with the following information to the designated people listed below. We need to show that our industry will pay heavily for this change and that it is not warranted because workmen's compensation coverage is adequate.

-Tell them about your company. How many employees do you have and are you a small business (less than 500 employees)?

-Do you have Longshore Harbor Worker's Compensation Act (LHWCA) coverage now? Have you ever had a LHWCA claim?

-If you have to change your LHWCA coverage, how much more will it cost? Will it cause you to cut staff or turn away commercial business?

-Do your employees receive assistance if injured under state workmans' compensation?

Comments are requested by November 3rd, but will be accepted until November 18.

SEND EMAILS TO:

Janis C. Reyes, Asst. Chief Counsel
Labor & Immigration
SBA Office of Advocacy
Janis.reyes@sba.gov

SUBMIT COMMENTS AT:

Go to www.regulations.gov and enter RIN 1240-AA02 in the Keyword Box. Then scroll to the proposed rule and click on Submit Comments.

WRITE TO:

Michael Niss, Director Div. Of Longshore & Harbor Workers' Compensation
Office of Workers Compensation Programs
US Department of Labor
RM. C-4315
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20210

For full text of proposed rules [click here.](#)

ABBRA
50 Water Street
Warren, RI 02885
401-247-0318
info@abra.org
www.abbra.org