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Your Safety Matters

This information letter is distributed to those people who are ensuring that their workplace is safe and healthy. This includes members of OHS Committees, OHS Representatives, Safety Officers, Supervisors, Managers and Directors. "Your Safety Matters" (formerly "Committee Member") is free information letter which has been distributed since 1996.

Changes to the NSW OHS Act 2000

Changes? What Changes?



Yes there was talk of change, 4 years of talk and review and submissions so far. The NSW government set up two Inquiries to review the OHS Act and both Inquiries recommended changes to the OHS Act but these recommendations did not get as far as becoming a proposed law in the NSW Parliament.

The findings of the last Inquiry were set out in the Stein Report in March 2007. However that Report has not been released to the public.

For now it looks like the recommended changes to the NSW OHS Act may be put off until the Federal Government and all State Governments can work out if they can agree to adopt the same OHS law all over Australia. **They aim to publish a model OHS Act for all Australia by March 2009.** Then, if they can all agree to adopt the model as law, and all goes well, they anticipate that there will be one OHS law for all Australia in about 5 years time.

Meanwhile companies that operate all over Australia have to continue knowing and working with the OHS laws of every State and Territory in Australia.



And for we who work only in NSW, well it appears that we may not have to apply any major changes to our OHS laws for about 5 years.

This publication provides general information about ohs. It is not a legal opinion and does not represent a comprehensive statement of the law to be applied to a particular problem.

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