

Senate Bill 3257 to Support VPP

Last week Senator Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.), with Senator Landrieu (D-La.), introduced a bill (S. 3257) to codify the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP). The bill would reauthorize the VPP initiative, expand its coverage to include more small businesses and secure direct federal funding.

“No program has been more successful in creating such a culture of safety in the workplace than VPP,” stated Senator Enzi. “The bipartisan support for VPP continues into this Congress. Last week, the Senate Budget Committee unanimously approved an amendment to preserve VPP budget authority and Chairman Conrad notes that the program actually saves taxpayer dollars.”

The senator went on to explain that even with bipartisan support, this bill is needed to ensure OSHA's funding for the program without introducing a fee-based system.

“Such a proposal [a fee-based system] is simply not workable and completely counterproductive ... a fee-based system simply destroys the credibility and integrity of VPP participation for employees.”

Please view [S. 3257](#) (PDF) to read the entire bill.