

### Subpart A—General Provisions and Conditions

SOURCE: 37 FR 25931, Dec. 6, 1972, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 1952.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) This part sets forth the Assistant Secretary's approval of State plans submitted under section 18 of the Act and part 1902 of this chapter. Each approval of a State plan is based on a determination by the Assistant Secretary that the plan meets the requirements of section 18(c) of the Act and the criteria and indices of effectiveness specified in part 1902.

(b) This subpart contains general provisions and conditions which are applicable to all State plans, regardless of the time of their approval. Separate subparts are used for the identification of specific State plans, indication of locations where the full plan may be inspected and copied, and setting forth any special conditions and special policies which may be applicable to a particular plan.

#### § 1952.2 Definitions.

(a) *Act* means the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 651 *et seq.*).

(b) *Assistant Secretary* means the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

#### § 1952.3 Developmental plans.

Any developmental plan; that is, a plan not fully meeting the criteria set forth in § 1902.3 of this chapter at the time of approval, must meet the requirements of § 1902.2(b) of this chapter.

#### § 1952.4 Injury and illness recording and reporting requirements.

(a) Injury and illness recording and reporting requirements promulgated by State-Plan States must be substantially identical to those in 29 CFR part 1904 "Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illnesses." State-Plan States must promulgate recording and reporting requirements that are the same as the Federal requirements for determining which injuries and illnesses will be entered into the records and how they are entered. All other in-

jury and illness recording and reporting requirements that are promulgated by State-Plan States may be more stringent than, or supplemental to, the Federal requirements, but, because of the unique nature of the national recordkeeping program, States must consult with OSHA and obtain approval of such additional or more stringent reporting and recording requirements to ensure that they will not interfere with uniform reporting objectives. State-Plan States must extend the scope of their regulation to State and local government employers.

(b) A State may not grant a variance to the injury and illness recording and reporting requirements for private sector employers. Such variances may only be granted by Federal OSHA to assure nationally consistent workplace injury and illness statistics. A State may only grant a variance to the injury and illness recording and reporting requirements for State or local government entities in that State after obtaining approval from Federal OSHA.

(c) A State must recognize any variance issued by Federal OSHA.

(d) A State may, but is not required, to participate in the Annual OSHA Injury/Illness Survey as authorized by 29 CFR 1904.41. A participating State may either adopt requirements identical to 1904.41 in its recording and reporting regulation as an enforceable State requirement, or may defer to the Federal regulation for enforcement. Nothing in any State plan shall affect the duties of employers to comply with 1904.41, when surveyed, as provided by section 18(c)(7) of the Act.

[66 FR 6135, Jan. 19, 2001]

#### § 1952.5 Availability of the plans.

(a) A complete copy of each State plan including any supplements thereto, shall be kept at:

(1) Office of Federal and State Operations, OSHA, Room 305, Railway Labor Building, 400 First Street, NW., U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210; and

(2) The office of the nearest Regional Administrator, Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The addresses of the Regional Administrators

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are listed in the "United States Government Organization Manual," 1972/73, p. 310. The copy shall be available for public inspection and copying.

(b) A complete copy of the State plan of a particular State, including any supplements thereto, shall be kept at the office of the State office listed in the appropriate subpart of this part 1952.

### § 1952.6 Partial approval of State plans.

(a) The Assistant Secretary may partially approve a plan under part 1902 of this chapter whenever:

(1) The portion to be approved meets the requirements of part 1902;

(2) The plan covers more than one occupational safety and health issue; and

(3) Portions of the plan to be approved are reasonably separable from the remainder of the plan.

(b) Whenever the Assistant Secretary approves only a portion of a State plan, he may give notice to the State of an opportunity to show cause why a proceeding should not be commenced for disapproval of the remainder of the plan under subpart C of part 1902 before commencing such a proceeding.

### § 1952.7 Product standards.

(a) Under section 18(c)(2) of the Act, a State plan must not include standards for products which are distributed or used in interstate commerce which are different from Federal standards for such products unless such standards are required by compelling local conditions and do not unduly burden interstate commerce. In § 1902.3(c)(2) of this chapter this is interpreted as not being applicable to customized products, or parts not normally available on the open market, or to the optional parts, or additions to products which are ordinarily available with such optional parts, or additions.

(b) In situations where section 18(c)(2) is considered applicable, and provision is made for the adoption of product standards, the requirements of section 18(c)(2), as they relate to undue burden on interstate commerce, shall be treated as a condition subsequent in light of the facts and circumstances which may be involved.

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### § 1952.8 Variations, tolerances, and exemptions affecting the national defense.

(a) The power of the Secretary of Labor under section 16 of the Act to provide reasonable limitations and variations, tolerances, and exemptions to and from any or all provisions of the Act as he may find necessary and proper to avoid serious impairment of the national defense is reserved.

(b) No action by a State under a plan shall be inconsistent with action by the Secretary under this section of the Act.

### § 1952.9 Variances affecting multi-state employers.

(a) Where a State standard is identical to a Federal standard addressed to the same hazard, an employer or group of employers seeking a temporary or permanent variance from such standard, or portion thereof, to be applicable to employment or places of employment in more than one State, including at least one State with an approved plan, may elect to apply to the Assistant Secretary for such variance under the provisions of 29 CFR part 1905, as amended.

(b) Actions taken by the Assistant Secretary with respect to such application for a variance, such as interim orders, with respect thereto, the granting, denying, or issuing any modification or extension thereof, will be deemed prospectively an authoritative interpretation of the employer or employers' compliance obligations with regard to the State standard, or portion thereof, identical to the Federal standard, or portion thereof, affected by the action in the employment or places of employment covered by the application.

(c) Nothing herein shall affect the option of an employer or employers seeking a temporary or permanent variance with applicability to employment or places of employment in more than one State to apply for such variance either to the Assistant Secretary or the individual State agencies involved. However, the filing with, as well as granting, denial, modification, or revocation of a variance request or interim order by, either authority (Federal or State) shall preclude any further substantive