

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2218

Introduced by Assembly Member Williams

February 24, 2012

An act to add Chapter 4.9 (commencing with Section 24540) to Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to consumer safety.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2218, as introduced, Williams. Consumer safety: table saws.

Existing law prohibits the sale of various types of products that are determined to be unsafe for the public, including, among others, specified bunk beds, infant cribs, and toys. Existing state regulations require certain types of table saws to be guarded by a hood and to contain various safety features to prevent injury.

This bill would prohibit a seller, on or after January 1, 2015, from selling a new table saw in this state unless that table saw is equipped with active injury mitigation technology, as defined. The bill would make a seller who violates these provisions subject to a civil fine not exceeding \$5,000 per sale. The bill would authorize the Attorney General to maintain an action against any seller who violates these provisions, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 4.9 (commencing with Section 24540)
- 2 is added to Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

CHAPTER 4.9. TABLE SAW SAFETY ACT

1
2
3 24540. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the
4 Table Saw Safety Act.

5 24541. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions
6 apply:

7 (a) "Active injury mitigation technology" means technology to
8 detect contact with, or dangerous proximity between, a hand or
9 finger and the teeth of the blade above the table top of a table saw,
10 and to prevent the blade from cutting the hand or finger deeper
11 than one-eighth of an inch when the hand or finger approaches
12 any portion of the blade above the table top at a speed of one foot
13 per second from any direction and along any path. Notwithstanding
14 the prior sentence, active injury mitigation technology may be
15 temporarily deactivated by a person so that a saw can cut material
16 which would otherwise be detected as a person.

17 (b) "Seller" means any person who deals in or engages in the
18 business of selling table saws or any other person who sells table
19 saws in this state.

20 (c) "Table saw" means a saw that is designed primarily for
21 cutting wood with a generally planar, circular blade having teeth
22 around its periphery and having a nominal diameter of 12 inches
23 or less, where the table saw includes a table top for supporting a
24 work piece, and where at least a portion of the blade extends above
25 the table top to cut a work piece on the table top. Table saws vary
26 in price, size, weight, motors, drive systems, stands, housings, and
27 other features. Common names of various types of table saws
28 include, but are not limited to, bench saws, bench top saws,
29 contractor saws, hybrid saws, and cabinet saws.

30 24542. (a) On or after January 1, 2015, a seller shall not sell
31 any new table saw in this state unless that table saw is equipped
32 with active injury mitigation technology.

33 (b) Any seller who violates subdivision (a) is subject to a civil
34 fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each sale.

35 (c) The Attorney General may maintain an action against any
36 seller who violates subdivision (a) for injunctive and any other
37 appropriate relief.

O