

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 7, 2012

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 25, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2218**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Williams**  
*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Allen, Butler, and Campos)*

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 amended, 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~~ 2016, from selling a new table saw in this state unless that table saw is equipped with active injury mitigation technology, as defined.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
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—~~“Injury mitigation technology” means  
8 technology to *prevent or* detect contact with, or dangerous  
9 proximity between, a hand or finger and the teeth of the blade  
10 above the table top of a table saw, and to prevent the blade from  
11 ~~cutting causing severe injury to~~ the hand or finger ~~deeper than~~  
12 ~~one-eighth of an inch when the hand or finger approaches any~~  
13 ~~portion of the blade above the table top at a speed of one foot per~~  
14 ~~second from any direction and along any path. Notwithstanding~~  
15 ~~the prior sentence, active injury mitigation technology may be~~  
16 ~~temporarily deactivated by a person so that a saw can cut material~~  
17 ~~which would otherwise be detected as a person.~~

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

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

31 24542. On or after January 1, ~~2015~~ 2016, a seller shall not sell  
32 any new table saw in this state unless that table saw is equipped  
33 with ~~active~~ injury mitigation technology.