

HB 353 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0378

05/06

HOUSE BILL **353**

AN ACT relative to hearing protection for employees of nightclubs and music venues.

SPONSORS: Rep. MacKenzie, Hills. 40

COMMITTEE: Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

ANALYSIS

This bill directs nightclub and music venues to provide hearing protection for employees when the sound levels exceed certain decibels and provides for rulemaking and enforcement through the department of labor.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT relative to hearing protection for employees of nightclubs and music venues.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; Labor; Safety and Health of Employment; Hearing Protection for Employees in
2 Nightclubs and Music Venues. Amend RSA 277 by inserting after section 11 the following new
3 section:

4 277:11-a Hearing Protection for Employees in Nightclubs and Music Venues.

5 I. Employers who operate nightclubs or music venues shall be responsible for monitoring
6 sound levels to determine the level at the venue.

7 II. If the sound levels reach a sustained level of 85 decibels over 2 hours, the employer shall
8 take action to protect the hearing of the exposed employees.

9 III. If the sound level exceeds 90 decibels over an hour the employer shall immediately take
10 steps to protect the exposed worker.

11 2 Rulemaking. Amend RSA 277:16, I to read as follows:

12 I. The commissioner of labor shall adopt such rules, under RSA 541-A, as he *or she* deems
13 reasonable and necessary in order to carry out properly the provisions of RSA 277:10, [~~and~~] 277:11,
14 ***and 277:11-a.***

15 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.