



### **Attention: Washington State School Districts**

Setting and releasing school bus parking brakes over and over throughout the work shift can leave drivers with sore or seriously injured right shoulders, elbows or wrists.

This is because:

- the parking brakes on most buses require an extended reach and a high push/pull force to operate; and
- drivers must repeat this action with each pickup and drop off

Fortunately, school districts can take action to prevent or minimize risk for injuries like these. You can:

- request design changes from the school bus manufacturer for a before-market, permanent solution.
- install an after-market product designed to reduce forceful pulling. Search online or email us at [ergonomics@Lni.wa.gov](mailto:ergonomics@Lni.wa.gov) for possible options.
- check the PP-1(Push/Pull-1) valve on buses; if faulty, repair may reduce pushing and pulling forces.
- seek an approved retrofit kit for existing buses from the bus and brake system manufacturers.

[Get 1-on-1 assistance from L&I](#) or visit L&I's [Safety & Health webpage](#) for training, videos, and other resources to help strengthen your safety program.

Share this bulletin with others in your industry and safety network.

*This bulletin was developed by L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSHS) to alert employers, labor groups, and employees to potential hazards associated with work activities. **This is not a rule and creates no new legal obligations.** The information provided includes suggested guidance on how to avoid workplace hazards and describes relevant mandatory safety and health rules. DOSHS recommends you also check related rules for additional requirements.*