- 2 SSB 5466 H COMM AMD ADOPTED 4-10-91
- 3 By Committee on Judiciary

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- 5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
- 6 following:
- 7 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 18.64 RCW
- 8 to read as follows:
- 9 (1) A pharmacist who dispenses a prescription product in the form
- 10 manufactured by a commercial manufacturer pursuant to a prescription
- 11 issued by a licensed practitioner is not liable to a person who was
- 12 injured through the use of the product, based on a claim of the
- 13 following:
- 14 (a) Strict liability in tort; or
- 15 (b) Implied warranty provisions under the uniform commercial code
- 16 Title 62 RCW.
- 17 (2) The limitation on pharmacist's liability as provided in
- 18 subsection (1) of this section shall only apply if the pharmacist
- 19 complies with recordkeeping requirements pursuant to chapters 18.64,
- 20 69.41, and 69.50 RCW, and related administrative rules.
- 21 (3) A pharmacist who dispenses a prescription product in the form
- 22 manufactured by a commercial manufacturer issued by a licensed
- 23 practitioner is liable to the claimant only if the claimant's harm was
- 24 proximately caused by (a) the negligence of the pharmacist; (b) breach
- 25 of an express warranty made by the pharmacist; or (c) the intentional
- 26 misrepresentation of facts about the product by the pharmacist or the
- 27 intentional concealment of information about the product by the

- 1 pharmacist. A pharmacist shall not be liable for the product
- 2 manufacturer's lability except as provided in RCW 7.72.040."
- 3 "Sec. 2. RCW 7.72.040 and 1981 c 27 s 5 are each amended to read
- 4 as follows:
- 5 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a product
- 6 seller other than a manufacturer is liable to the claimant only if the
- 7 claimant's harm was proximately caused by:
- 8 (a) The negligence of such product seller; or
- 9 (b) Breach of an express warranty made by such product seller; or
- 10 (c) The intentional misrepresentation of facts about the product by
- 11 such product seller or the intentional concealment of information about
- 12 the product by such product seller.
- 13 (2) A product seller, other than a manufacturer, shall have the
- 14 liability of a manufacturer to the claimant if:
- 15 (a) No solvent manufacturer who would be liable to the claimant is
- 16 subject to service of process under the laws of the claimant's domicile
- 17 or the state of Washington; or
- 18 (b) The court determines that it is highly probable that the
- 19 claimant would be unable to enforce a judgment against any
- 20 manufacturer; or
- 21 (c) The product seller is a controlled subsidiary of a
- 22 manufacturer, or the manufacturer is a controlled subsidiary of the
- 23 product seller; or
- 24 (d) The product seller provided the plans or specifications for the
- 25 manufacture or preparation of the product and such plans or
- 26 specifications were a proximate cause of the defect in the product; or
- (e) The product was marketed under a trade name or brand name of
- 28 the product seller.

- 1 (3) Subsection (2) of this section does not apply to a pharmacist
- 2 who dispenses a prescription product in the form manufactured by a
- 3 commercial manufacturer pursuant to a prescription issued by a licensed
- 4 practitioner if the pharmacist complies with recordkeeping requirements
- 5 pursuant to chapters 18.64, 69.41, and 69.50 RCW, and related
- 6 administrative rules."
- 7 "Sec. 3. RCW 7.72.010 and 1981 c 27 s 2 are each amended to read
- 8 as follows:
- 9 For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context clearly
- 10 indicates to the contrary:
- 11 (1) Product seller. "Product seller" means any person or entity
- 12 that is engaged in the business of selling products, whether the sale
- 13 is for resale, or for use or consumption. The term includes a
- 14 manufacturer, wholesaler, distributor, or retailer of the relevant
- 15 product. The term also includes a party who is in the business of
- 16 leasing or bailing such products. The term "product seller" does not
- 17 include:
- 18 (a) A seller of real property, unless that person is engaged in the
- 19 mass production and sale of standardized dwellings or is otherwise a
- 20 product seller;
- 21 (b) A provider of professional services who utilizes or sells
- 22 products within the legally authorized scope of the professional
- 23 practice of the provider;
- 24 (c) A commercial seller of used products who resells a product
- 25 after use by a consumer or other product user: PROVIDED, That when it
- 26 is resold, the used product is in essentially the same condition as
- 27 when it was acquired for resale; ((and))
- 28 (d) A finance lessor who is not otherwise a product seller. A
- 29 "finance lessor" is one who acts in a financial capacity, who is not a

- 1 manufacturer, wholesaler, distributor, or retailer, and who leases a
- 2 product without having a reasonable opportunity to inspect and discover
- 3 defects in the product, under a lease arrangement in which the
- 4 selection, possession, maintenance, and operation of the product are
- 5 controlled by a person other than the lessor; and
- 6 (e) A licensed pharmacist who dispenses a prescription product
- 7 manufactured by a commercial manufacturer pursuant to a prescription
- 8 <u>issued by a licensed prescribing practitioner if the claim against the</u>
- 9 pharmacist is based upon strict liability in tort or the implied
- 10 warranty provisions under the uniform commercial code, Title 62A RCW,
- 11 and if the pharmacist complies with recordkeeping requirements pursuant
- 12 to chapters 18.64, 69.41, and 69.50 RCW, and related administrative
- 13 rules as provided in section 2 of this act. Nothing in this subsection
- 14 (1)(e) affects a pharmacist's liability under RCW 7.72.040(1).
- 15 (2) Manufacturer. "Manufacturer" includes a product seller who
- 16 designs, produces, makes, fabricates, constructs, or remanufactures the
- 17 relevant product or component part of a product before its sale to a
- 18 user or consumer. The term also includes a product seller or entity
- 19 not otherwise a manufacturer that holds itself out as a manufacturer.
- 20 A product seller acting primarily as a wholesaler, distributor, or
- 21 retailer of a product may be a "manufacturer" but only to the extent
- 22 that it designs, produces, makes, fabricates, constructs, or
- 23 remanufactures the product for its sale. A product seller who performs
- 24 minor assembly of a product in accordance with the instructions of the
- 25 manufacturer shall not be deemed a manufacturer. A product seller that
- 26 did not participate in the design of a product and that constructed the
- 27 product in accordance with the design specifications of the claimant or
- 28 another product seller shall not be deemed a manufacturer for the
- 29 purposes of RCW 7.72.030(1)(a).

- 1 (3) Product. "Product" means any object possessing intrinsic value,
- 2 capable of delivery either as an assembled whole or as a component part
- 3 or parts, and produced for introduction into trade or commerce. Human
- 4 tissue and organs, including human blood and its components, are
- 5 excluded from this term.
- 6 The "relevant product" under this chapter is that product or its
- 7 component part or parts, which gave rise to the product liability
- 8 claim.
- 9 (4) Product liability claim. "Product liability claim" includes any
- 10 claim or action brought for harm caused by the manufacture, production,
- 11 making, construction, fabrication, design, formula, preparation,
- 12 assembly, installation, testing, warnings, instructions, marketing,
- 13 packaging, storage or labeling of the relevant product. It includes,
- 14 but is not limited to, any claim or action previously based on: Strict
- 15 liability in tort; negligence; breach of express or implied warranty;
- 16 breach of, or failure to, discharge a duty to warn or instruct, whether
- 17 negligent or innocent; misrepresentation, concealment, or
- 18 nondisclosure, whether negligent or innocent; or other claim or action
- 19 previously based on any other substantive legal theory except fraud,
- 20 intentionally caused harm or a claim or action under the consumer
- 21 protection act, chapter 19.86 RCW.
- 22 (5) Claimant. "Claimant" means a person or entity asserting a
- 23 product liability claim, including a wrongful death action, and, if the
- 24 claim is asserted through or on behalf of an estate, the term includes
- 25 claimant's decedent. "Claimant" includes any person or entity that
- 26 suffers harm. A claim may be asserted under this chapter even though
- 27 the claimant did not buy the product from, or enter into any
- 28 contractual relationship with, the product seller.

- 1 (6) Harm. "Harm" includes any damages recognized by the courts of
- 2 this state: PROVIDED, That the term "harm" does not include direct or
- 3 consequential economic loss under Title 62A RCW."
- 4 **SSB 5466** H COMM AMD
- 5 By Committee on Judiciary

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- 7 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "62A RCW;" strike the
- 8 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 7.72.040 and 7.72.010;
- 9 and adding a new section to chapter 18.64 RCW."