

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5531

AS OF FEBRUARY 19, 1991

Brief Description: Limiting public agency liability for mental illness cases.

SPONSORS: Senators Nelson and Rasmussen; by request of Dept. of Social & Health Services.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LAW & JUSTICE

Staff: Richard Rodger (786-7461)

Hearing Dates: February 21, 1991

BACKGROUND:

General civil and criminal immunity is granted to certain persons involved with civil commitment process. The immunity extends to decisions relating to the admission, release, emergency medication, and temporary detention of persons who are alleged to be, or who are, mentally ill. To qualify for the immunity the actions must be performed in good faith and without gross negligence.

SUMMARY:

Decisions relating to the civil commitment process qualify for immunity from civil or criminal actions if they are performed in good faith.

Appropriation: none

Revenue: none

Fiscal Note: none requested