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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1874**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Anderson, Reams, R. Meyers, Jones, Sheldon, Hansen, Orr and Kessler)

Read first time 03/03/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the department of emergency services;  
2 and creating new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there has been a  
5 lack of state support for fire protection and emergency management  
6 services, best evidenced during recent arsons in the Puget Sound  
7 region. The legislature further finds that mandated fire protection  
8 and emergency management services have not been provided through the  
9 department of community development, and that a study should be  
10 conducted as to whether those services should be transferred from the  
11 department of community development and whether a separate funding  
12 mechanism should be established to support those services.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The house of representatives state  
14 government committee and the senate government operations committee  
15 shall conduct an interim study of the governance of fire protection  
16 services and emergency management services in the state. This study  
17 may include an examination of whether the divisions of fire protection  
18 and emergency management within the department of community development

1 should be merged to create a separate agency. The study may also  
2 examine alternative sources of funding for these programs. The  
3 committees may hold hearings and involve the affected stakeholders in  
4 the study. The committees shall report on their recommendations to the  
5 legislature by January 1, 1994.

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