

1 **HB 3041 - H AMDS 913 WITHDRAWN 2-13-98**

2 By Representative Cooke

3 On page 2, line 3, after staff member- strike is a witness to-  
4 and insert has direct knowledge of-

5 On page 2, after line 12, insert:

6 (4) The ombudsman or ombudsman's staff member has information  
7 concerning a failure by any person specified in RCW 26.44.030,  
8 including the state family and children's ombudsman or any volunteer in  
9 the ombudsman's office, to comply with RCW 26.44.030.-

**EFFECT:** Changes requirement that the ombudsman or ombudsman's staff member be a witness to- an alleged felony, and provides that the ombudsman or ombudsman's staff need only have direct knowledge of- an alleged felony in order to be exempted from the testimonial privilege. Adds an additional exception to the ombudsman's privilege when the ombudsman, or his or her staff, is aware of a failure by any person listed in RCW 26.44.030 to comply with the duty to report, or cause a report to be made, when he or she has reasonable cause to believe that a child or adult dependent or developmentally disabled person, has suffered abuse or neglect.