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Sponsor(s): Senators Kohl-Welles, Hargrove, Long, Thibaudeau and Prentice

Brief Description: Requiring background checks of health care practitioners.

SB 5555 - DIGEST

Declares an intent to protect children, vulnerable adults, and other consumers of health care by requiring background checks of all individuals applying for and holding registrations, certifications, and licenses to practice as health care practitioners in the state.

Provides that, notwithstanding RCW 9.96A.020, an individual is permanently disqualified from holding a license under chapter 18.130 RCW if the individual has a conviction record of any of the following offenses: (1) A serious violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;

(2) a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;

(3) any felony offense constituting: (a) sexual exploitation of a minor under chapter 9.68A RCW; (b) criminal mistreatment of a child or dependent person under chapter 9A.42 RCW; or (c) the sale or purchase of a minor child under RCW 9A.64.030; or

(4) any federal or out-of-state equivalent to those designated by this act.