

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SHB 1094

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Health & Long-Term Care, March 28, 2001

**Title:** An act relating to the surrender of a health care professional's license.

**Brief Description:** Allowing a health care professional to surrender his or her license to practice.

**Sponsors:** By House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Skinner, Schual-Berke, Cody, Campbell, Conway, Ruderman, Dunshee, Alexander, Edmonds, Kenney, Edwards and Kagi).

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Health & Long-Term Care: 3/15/01, 3/28/01 [DPA].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE

**Majority Report:** Do pass as amended.

Signed by Senators Thibaudeau, Chair; Franklin, Vice Chair; Costa, Deccio, Fraser, Parlette and Winsley.

**Staff:** Joan Mell (786-7447)

**Background:** The Uniform Disciplinary Act provides procedures and sanctions for unprofessional conduct committed by health professionals regulated through the Department of Health. Sanctions include revocation or suspension of a license to practice, restriction of practice, censure or reprimand, probation, fines, corrective action, and refund of client fees.

The voluntary surrender by a practitioner of a license, certificate, or registration to practice is not included as sanction.

**Summary of Amended Bill:** The surrender of a practitioner's license to practice is included in the list of sanctions to be considered by professional disciplinary authorities in lieu of other sanctions provided under the Uniform Disciplinary Act. Surrender of a license must be reported to the federal databank.

Reflexologists cannot be sanctioned for the practice of reflexology through July 2002.

**Amended Bill Compared to Original Bill:** A provision is added to clarify that surrender of a license must be reported to the federal database. A provision is added pertaining to sanctions against reflexologists.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** The bill is needed to provide an alternative sanction for health care practitioners. Surrender of a license would be reported to the federal databank the same way a license revocation would be reported. The Department of Health supports the bill.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** Linda Hall, WA St Dental Assn. (pro); Carl Nelson, WSMA (pro); Sue Shoblom, Dept. of Health.