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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2227**

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**State of Washington**

**57th Legislature**

**2001 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Ahern, Gombosky, Schoesler, Wood, Benson, Haigh, Schindler, Conway, Cox, Reardon, D. Schmidt, Talcott, Campbell and Bush; by request of Department of Veterans Affairs)

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the eastern Washington veterans'  
2 home; amending RCW 72.36.035, 72.36.045, 72.36.055, 72.36.060,  
3 43.60A.075, and 72.36.090; adding a new section to chapter 72.36 RCW;  
4 and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The department of veterans affairs indicates  
7 that it may acquire and staff an existing one-hundred-bed skilled  
8 nursing facility in Spokane and reopen it as an eastern Washington  
9 veterans' home by using a combination of funding sources. Funding  
10 sources include federal per diem payments, contributions from  
11 residents' incomes, and federal and state medicaid payments. In  
12 authorizing the establishment of an eastern Washington veterans' home,  
13 it is the intent of the legislature that the state general fund shall  
14 not provide support in future biennia for the eastern Washington  
15 veterans' home except for amounts required to pay the state share of  
16 medicaid costs.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 72.36.035 and 1993 sp.s. c 3 s 6 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

1 For purposes of this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates  
2 otherwise:

3 (1) "Actual bona fide residents of this state" means persons who  
4 have a domicile in the state of Washington immediately prior to  
5 application for admission to a state veterans' home.

6 (2) "Department" means the Washington state department of veterans  
7 affairs.

8 (3) "Domicile" means a person's true, fixed, and permanent home and  
9 place of habitation, and shall be the place where the person intends to  
10 remain, and to which the person expects to return when the person  
11 leaves without intending to establish a new domicile elsewhere.

12 (4) "State veterans' homes" means ~~((either))~~ the Washington  
13 soldiers' home and colony in Orting, ~~((or))~~ the Washington veterans'  
14 home in Retsil, ~~((or both))~~ and the eastern Washington veterans' home.

15 (5) "Veteran" has the same meaning established in RCW 41.04.005.

16 **Sec. 3.** RCW 72.36.045 and 1977 ex.s. c 186 s 10 are each amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 In the maintenance of the ~~((Washington soldiers' home and colony  
19 and the Washington))~~ state veterans' homes by the state through the  
20 department of veterans' affairs, such maintenance shall include, but  
21 not be limited to, the provision of members' room and board, medical  
22 and dental care, physical and occupational therapy, and recreational  
23 activities, with the necessary implementing transportation, equipment,  
24 and personnel therefor.

25 **Sec. 4.** RCW 72.36.055 and 1977 ex.s. c 186 s 6 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 The ~~((soldiers' home and colony at Orting and the Washington))~~  
28 state veterans' homes ~~((at Retsil))~~ shall provide both domiciliary and  
29 nursing care. The level of domiciliary members shall remain consistent  
30 with the facilities available to accommodate those members: PROVIDED,  
31 That nothing in this section shall preclude the department from moving  
32 residents between nursing and domiciliary care in order to better  
33 utilize facilities and maintain the appropriate care for the members.

34 **Sec. 5.** RCW 72.36.060 and 1977 ex.s. c 186 s 3 are each amended to  
35 read as follows:

1 The state treasurer is authorized to receive any and all moneys  
2 appropriated or paid by the United States under the act of congress  
3 entitled "An Act to provide aid to state or territorial homes for  
4 disabled soldiers and sailors of the United States," approved August  
5 27, 1888, or under any other act or acts of congress for the benefit of  
6 such homes. Such moneys shall be deposited in the general fund and  
7 shall be expended for the maintenance of the ((soldiers' home and))  
8 state veterans' homes.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 72.36 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11 There shall be established and maintained in this state a branch of  
12 the state soldiers' home, under the name of the "eastern Washington  
13 veterans' home," which branch shall be a home for veterans and their  
14 spouses who meet admission requirements contained in RCW 72.36.030.

15 **Sec. 7.** RCW 43.60A.075 and 1977 c 31 s 5 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 The director of the department of veterans affairs shall have full  
18 power to manage and govern the state soldiers' home and colony ((and)),  
19 the Washington veterans' home, and the eastern Washington veterans'  
20 home.

21 **Sec. 8.** RCW 72.36.090 and 1977 ex.s. c 186 s 9 are each amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 The superintendents of the state ((soldiers' home and colony and  
24 the state)) veterans' homes are hereby authorized to:

25 (1) Institute programs of hobby promotion designed to improve the  
26 general welfare and mental condition of the persons under their  
27 supervision;

28 (2) Provide for the financing of these programs by grants from  
29 funds in the superintendent's custody through operation of canteens and  
30 exchanges at such institutions;

31 (3) Limit the hobbies sponsored to projects which will, in their  
32 judgment, be self-liquidating or self-sustaining.

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