

6678

Sponsor(s): Senators Fraser, Winsley, Stevens, Hargrove, Benton and Rasmussen

Brief Description: Authorizing the release of patient records for the purpose of restoring state mental health hospital cemeteries. Revised for 1st Substitute: Authorizing the release of patient records for the purpose of memorializing persons interred in state hospital cemeteries.

SB 6678 - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Finds that social stigmas surrounding mental illness have prevented patients buried in the state mental health hospital cemeteries from being properly memorialized. From 1887 to 1953, the state buried many of the patients who died while in residence at the three state mental health hospitals on hospital grounds. In order to honor these patients, the legislature intends that the state be allowed to release records necessary to appropriately mark their resting place.