

SSB 5035 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections

ADOPTED 04/06/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The Washington state forensic
4 investigations council shall study and make recommendations to the
5 legislature regarding the need for a state forensic pathologist
6 program. The council may include in its recommendations information
7 regarding the state forensic pathologist's annual salary, budget, and
8 duties.

9 The study and recommendations shall be presented to the legislature
10 by December 1, 2005.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.103.030 and 1999 c 40 s 4 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 There is created the Washington state forensic investigations
14 council. The council shall oversee the bureau of forensic laboratory
15 services and, in consultation with the chief of the Washington state
16 patrol or the chief's designee, control the operation and establish
17 policies of the bureau of forensic laboratory services. The council
18 may also study and recommend cost-efficient improvements to the death
19 investigation system in Washington and report its findings to the
20 legislature.

21 ~~((Further, the council shall, jointly with the chairperson of the
22 pathology department of the University of Washington's School of
23 Medicine, or the chairperson's designee, oversee the state forensic
24 pathology fellowship program, determine the budget for the program and
25 set the fellow's annual salary, and take those steps necessary to
26 administer the program.))~~

27 The forensic investigations council shall be responsible for the
28 oversight of any state forensic pathology program authorized by the
29 legislature.

1 The forensic investigations council shall be actively involved in
2 the preparation of the bureau of forensic laboratory services budget
3 and shall approve the bureau of forensic laboratory services budget
4 prior to its formal submission to the office of financial management
5 pursuant to RCW 43.88.030.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.79.445 and 1997 c 454 s 901 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 There is established an account in the state treasury referred to
9 as the "death investigations account" which shall exist for the purpose
10 of receiving, holding, investing, and disbursing funds appropriated or
11 provided in RCW 70.58.107 and any moneys appropriated or otherwise
12 provided thereafter.

13 Moneys in the death investigations account shall be disbursed by
14 the state treasurer once every year on December 31 and at any other
15 time determined by the treasurer. The treasurer shall make
16 disbursements to: The state toxicology laboratory, counties for the
17 cost of autopsies, (~~the University of Washington to fund the state~~
18 ~~forensic pathology fellowship program,~~) the state patrol for providing
19 partial funding for the state dental identification system, the
20 criminal justice training commission for training county coroners,
21 medical examiners and their staff, and the state forensic
22 investigations council. Funds from the death investigations account
23 may be appropriated during the 1997-99 biennium for the purposes of
24 statewide child mortality reviews administered by the department of
25 health.

26 (~~The University of Washington and the Washington state forensic~~
27 ~~investigations council shall jointly determine the yearly amount for~~
28 ~~the state forensic pathology fellowship program established by RCW~~
29 ~~28B.20.426.))~~

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.20.426 (Fellowship program in
31 forensic pathology--Funding--Recipient's services to county coroners)
32 and 1991 c 176 s 3 & 1986 c 31 s 1 are each repealed."

EFFECT: Since the state forensic program does not exist at this

time, the amendment eliminates the requirement that the State Treasurer make disbursements to the Forensic Investigations Council to fund the state forensic program. Adds a provision to state that the Forensics Investigations Council will be responsible for oversight of any state forensic pathology program authorized by the legislature.

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