
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5035

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Thibaudeau, Brandland and Franklin)

READ FIRST TIME 02/14/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to forensic pathology; amending RCW 43.103.030 and
2 43.79.445; creating a new section; and repealing RCW 28B.20.426.

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

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

1 may also study and recommend cost-efficient improvements to the death
2 investigation system in Washington and report its findings to the
3 legislature.

4 ~~((Further, the council shall, jointly with the chairperson of the
5 pathology department of the University of Washington's School of
6 Medicine, or the chairperson's designee, oversee the state forensic
7 pathology fellowship program, determine the budget for the program and
8 set the fellow's annual salary, and take those steps necessary to
9 administer the program.))~~

10 The forensic investigations council shall be actively involved in
11 the preparation of the bureau of forensic laboratory services budget
12 and shall approve the bureau of forensic laboratory services budget
13 prior to its formal submission to the office of financial management
14 pursuant to RCW 43.88.030.

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

17 There is established an account in the state treasury referred to
18 as the "death investigations account" which shall exist for the purpose
19 of receiving, holding, investing, and disbursing funds appropriated or
20 provided in RCW 70.58.107 and any moneys appropriated or otherwise
21 provided thereafter.

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

35 The ~~((University of Washington and the))~~ Washington state forensic
36 investigations council shall ~~((jointly))~~ determine the yearly amount

1 for the state forensic (~~pathology fellowship~~) program established by
2 RCW (~~28B.20.426~~) 43.103.030.

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

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