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**State Government & Tribal  
Affairs Committee**

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**SSB 5118**

**Brief Description:** Developing sexual harassment policies, procedures, and mandatory training for all state employees.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl-Welles, Brandland, Keiser, Murray, Prentice, McAuliffe, Marr and Shin).

<p><b>Brief Summary of Substitute Bill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Codifies existing policy on sexual harassment contained in Executive Order 89-01.</li></ul>
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**Hearing Date:** 3/23/07

**Staff:** Marsha Reilly (786-7135).

**Background:**

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and RCW 49.60, Washington Law Against Discrimination (WLAD).

In 1989, then Governor Gardner issued Executive Order 89-01, which stated that it is the public policy of the state to provide and maintain a working environment free from sexual harassment for its employees and all citizens participating in state programs. The Executive Order requires all state agencies to develop and disseminate a policy on sexual harassment, to conduct training and education for all employees, and to respond promptly and effectively to sexual harassment concerns.

The Executive Order also requires the Department of Personnel to incorporate into its Affirmative Action Program Guidelines criteria addressing compliance with this Executive Order.

**Summary of Bill:**

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

The existing Executive Order 89-01 on Sexual Harassment for state agencies is codified. The Department of Personnel is required to develop rules establishing guidelines on policies, procedures, reporting, and mandatory training for all state agencies to comply with this act. The cost of the mandatory training is to be covered by the state agencies within the existing resources.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.