

SSB 6791 - S AMD 93

By Senator Hargrove

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The Washington institute for public  
4 policy shall, in collaboration with the department of social and health  
5 services and other applicable entities, undertake a search for a  
6 validated mental health assessment tool or combination of tools to be  
7 used by designated mental health professionals when undertaking  
8 assessments of individuals for detention, commitment, and revocation  
9 under the involuntary treatment act pursuant to chapter 71.05 RCW.

10 (2) This section expires June 30, 2011.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 71.05 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 (1) In determining whether a person is gravely disabled or presents  
14 a likelihood of serious harm, the court or evaluating designated mental  
15 health professional must consider the symptoms and behavior of the  
16 respondent in light of all available evidence or information concerning  
17 the respondent's historical behavior, as disclosed by the clinical  
18 record or credible witnesses with knowledge of the respondent.

19 (2) Symptoms or behavior which standing alone would not justify  
20 civil commitment may support an inference of grave disability or  
21 likelihood of serious harm when: (a) Such symptoms or behavior are  
22 closely associated with symptoms or behavior which preceded and led to  
23 a past incident of involuntary hospitalization, severe deterioration,  
24 or one or more violent acts; (b) these symptoms or behavior represent  
25 a marked and concerning change in the baseline behavior of the  
26 respondent; and (c) without treatment, the continued deterioration of  
27 the respondent is highly probable."

1        On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "act;" strike the remainder  
2 of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter 71.05 RCW;  
3 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date."

EFFECT:    Symptoms or behavior which may support an inference of grave disability or likelihood of serious harm must: (1) Be closely associated with symptoms or behavior which preceded and led to a past incident of involuntary hospitalization, severe deterioration, or one or more violent acts; (2) represent a marked and concerning change in baseline behavior; and (3) without treatment, the continued deterioration of the respondent is highly probable.

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