

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5131

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As of March 4, 2009

**Title:** An act relating to crisis referral services for criminal justice and correctional personnel.

**Brief Description:** Concerning crisis referral services for criminal justice and correctional personnel.

**Sponsors:** Senators Delvin, Hargrove, Brandland and Regala; by request of Lieutenant Governor.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Human Services & Corrections: 1/27/09.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS

**Staff:** Kevin Black (786-7747)

**Background:** The Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) is a state organization which establishes standards for education and training and provides education and training to law enforcement personnel.

**Summary of Bill:** The CJTC must offer training to criminal justice and correctional personnel on personal crisis recognition and crisis intervention services. The training must be a minimum of one hour classroom or internet instruction. The training must include techniques for recognizing underlying causes of personal crises, such as mental health issues, chemical dependency, domestic violence, and financial problems. The CJTC must list public and private crisis referral agencies available to law enforcement personnel and describe the services which are available, including the cost of services and a description of resources available to help pay for services.

All communications between law enforcement employees and crisis referral services must be privileged and confidential.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

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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.*

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: We want to help law enforcement officers come forward when they have serious issues created by the stress of their job. Confidentiality will help them come forward without fear of stigma or retribution. Intervention early can be critical to achieving long term success, and saving careers and money in the process.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Senator Delvin, prime sponsor; Brad Owen, Lieutenant Governor; Sean Riley, Save Call Now; Steve Rittreiser, Chief of Police, University of Washington; Eric Olsen, Chief of Police, Kirkland Police Department.