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SENATE BILL 5131

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Delvin, Hargrove, Brandland, and Regala; by request of Lieutenant Governor

Read first time 01/14/09. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to crisis referral services for criminal justice  
2 and correctional personnel; and adding new sections to chapter 43.101  
3 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The commission shall offer a training  
6 session on personal crisis recognition and crisis intervention services  
7 to criminal justice and correctional personnel. The training shall be  
8 implemented by the commission in consultation with appropriate public  
9 and private organizations that have expertise in crisis referral  
10 services and in the underlying conditions leading to the need for  
11 crisis referral.

12 (2) The training shall consist of a minimum of one hour of  
13 classroom or internet instruction, and shall include instruction on the  
14 following subjects:

15 (a) The description and underlying causes of problems that may have  
16 an impact on the personal and professional lives of law enforcement  
17 employees, including mental health issues, chemical dependency,  
18 domestic violence, financial problems, and other personal crises;

1 (b) Techniques by which law enforcement employees may recognize the  
2 conditions listed in (a) of this subsection and understand the need to  
3 seek assistance and obtain a referral for consultation and possible  
4 treatment;

5 (c) A listing of public and private crisis referral agencies  
6 available to law enforcement employees; and

7 (d) A description of the kinds of consultation and treatment  
8 services available for referral of law enforcement employees, including  
9 the cost of such services and available resources to help pay for the  
10 services.

11 (3) The training developed by the commission for criminal justice  
12 and correctional personnel shall be made available by the commission to  
13 all employees of state and local agencies that perform public safety  
14 duties. The commission may charge a reasonable fee to defer the cost  
15 of making the training available.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) All communications to crisis referral  
17 services by employees and volunteers of law enforcement, correctional,  
18 firefighting, and emergency services agencies, and all records related  
19 to the communications, shall be confidential and privileged. Crisis  
20 referral services include all public or private organizations that  
21 advise employees and volunteers of such agencies about sources of  
22 consultation and treatment for personal problems including mental  
23 health issues, chemical dependency, domestic violence, gambling,  
24 financial problems, and other personal crises.

25 (2) A crisis referral service may reveal information related to  
26 crisis referral services to prevent reasonably certain death,  
27 substantial bodily harm, or commission of a crime.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act are each added  
29 to chapter 43.101 RCW.

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