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SENATE BILL 5987

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Regala, Hargrove, and Shin; by request of Department of Corrections

Read first time 02/12/09. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to department of corrections training; amending RCW  
2 43.101.220; adding a new section to chapter 43.10 RCW; and creating a  
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The intent of the legislature is that all  
6 corrections personnel employed by the Washington department of  
7 corrections are prepared to carry out the demands of their position  
8 that they are likely to encounter during their daily duties. The  
9 protection of the public, department employees, and inmates are a  
10 primary reason to ensure that everyone is adequately trained and  
11 knowledgeable in routine and emergency procedures.

12 To best carry out this mission it is necessary for the Washington  
13 state department of corrections to have the authority, discretion, and  
14 ability to design and conduct mandatory training that best meets the  
15 needs of its changing offender population.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.101.220 and 2007 c 382 s 1 are each amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (1) The corrections personnel of the state and all counties and

1 municipal corporations initially employed on or after January 1, 1982,  
2 shall engage in basic corrections training which complies with  
3 standards adopted by the commission. The training shall be  
4 successfully completed during the first six months of employment of the  
5 personnel, unless otherwise extended or waived by the commission, and  
6 shall be requisite to the continuation of employment.

7 (2) The commission shall provide the training required in this  
8 section, together with facilities, supplies, materials, and the room  
9 and board for noncommuting attendees.

10 (3) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section do not apply to the  
11 Washington state department of corrections. The Washington state  
12 department of corrections is responsible for identifying training  
13 standards, designing curricula and programs, and providing the training  
14 for those corrections personnel employed by it. In doing so, the  
15 secretary of the department of corrections shall consult with staff  
16 development experts and correctional professionals both inside and  
17 outside of the agency, to include soliciting input from labor  
18 organizations.

19 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 43.10 RCW  
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) All new corrections personnel employed by the Washington state  
22 department of corrections shall, within a period to be determined by  
23 the secretary of the department of corrections, successfully complete  
24 core training requirements prescribed or obtain a waiver or extension  
25 of the core training requirements from the secretary.

26 (2) Within a period to be determined by the secretary of the  
27 Washington state department of corrections after completion of the core  
28 training requirements of this section, corrections personnel employed  
29 by the department shall successfully complete all remaining  
30 requirements for career level certification prescribed by the secretary  
31 applicable to their position or rank, or obtain a waiver or extension  
32 of the career level training requirements from the secretary.

33 (3) The secretary of the department of corrections is responsible  
34 for assuring that the training needs of the corrections personnel are  
35 met by the department's training program. Once a year, the secretary

1 is responsible for conducting an assessment of the training programs  
2 for the corrections personnel employed by the department.

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