

**SB 5500 - DIGEST**

(AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 3/9/2009)

Provides a process for screening for and reporting of methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus in Washington hospitals.

Establishes a hospital methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus risk assessment and surveillance program.

Requires a physician, physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner to, in completing a certificate of death in compliance with chapter 70.58 RCW (vital statistics), note the presence of methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus, if it is a cause or contributing factor in the patient's death.