
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1247

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By House Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Hunter, Darneille, and Kenney; by request of Department of Social and Health Services)

READ FIRST TIME 01/21/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to the staffing of secure community transition
2 facilities; amending RCW 71.09.300; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 71.09.300 and 2003 c 216 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Secure community transition facilities shall meet the following
7 minimum staffing requirements:

8 ~~(1)((a) At any time the census of a facility that accepts its~~
9 ~~first resident before July 1, 2003, is six or fewer residents, the~~
10 ~~facility shall maintain a minimum staffing ratio of one staff per three~~
11 ~~residents during normal waking hours and one awake staff per four~~
12 ~~residents during normal sleeping hours. In no case shall the staffing~~
13 ~~ratio permit less than two staff per housing unit.~~

14 ~~(b) At any time the census of a facility that accepts its first~~
15 ~~resident on or after July 1, 2003, is six or fewer residents, the~~
16 ~~facility shall maintain a minimum staffing ratio of one staff per~~
17 ~~resident during normal waking hours and two awake staff per three~~
18 ~~residents during normal sleeping hours. In no case shall the staffing~~
19 ~~ratio permit less than two staff per housing unit.~~

1 (2)) At any time the census of a facility is six or fewer
2 residents, all staff shall be classified as residential rehabilitation
3 counselor II or have a classification that indicates an equivalent or
4 higher level of skill, experience, and training.

5 ~~((3) Before being assigned to a facility, all staff shall have
6 training in sex offender issues, self-defense, and crisis de-escalation
7 skills in addition to departmental orientation and, as appropriate,
8 management training. All staff with resident treatment or care duties
9 must participate in ongoing in-service training.~~

10 (4)) (2)(a) For the secure transition facility located on McNeil
11 Island, the direct care staffing level shall be at least three
12 qualified, trained staff as described in subsection (3) of this
13 section, unless there are no residents housed at the facility, in which
14 case the facility need not staff to this ratio.

15 (b) For the secure community transition facility located in
16 Seattle, the direct care staffing level shall be at least two
17 qualified, trained staff as described in subsection (3) of this
18 section, unless there are no residents housed at the facility, in which
19 case the facility need not staff to this ratio.

20 (3) Before being assigned to a facility, all staff must have
21 received training in sex offender issues, self-defense, and crisis
22 de-escalation skills in addition to departmental orientation and, as
23 appropriate, management training. All staff with resident treatment or
24 care duties must participate in ongoing in-service training.

25 (4) All staff must pass a departmental background check and the
26 check is not subject to the limitations in chapter 9.96A RCW. A person
27 who has been convicted of a felony, or any sex offense, may not be
28 employed at the secure community transition facility or be approved as
29 an escort for a resident of the facility.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate
31 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
32 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
33 immediately.

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