
HOUSE BILL 1247

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Kagi, Hunter, Darneille, and Kenney; by request of Department of Social and Health Services

Read first time 01/18/11. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

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 residents,~~
2 ~~all staff shall be classified as residential rehabilitation counselor~~
3 ~~II or have a classification that indicates an equivalent or higher~~
4 ~~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))~~ For the secure transition facility located on McNeil Island,
11 at no time may the direct care staffing level be less than three
12 qualified, trained staff as described in subsection (2) of this
13 section.

14 (b) For the secure community transition facility located in
15 Seattle, at no time may the direct staffing level be less than two
16 qualified, trained staff as described in subsection (2) of this
17 section.

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

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

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

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