
HOUSE BILL 1678

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Klippert, Blake, Hayes, Takko, Holy, Hope, and Ross

Read first time 02/05/13. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to peace officers; and adding a new section to
2 chapter 4.24 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) No peace officer acting reasonably, considering the totality of
7 the incident from the perspective of a reasonable officer, in the
8 course of his or her duties may be held civilly or criminally liable
9 nor shall the city, county, state, or agency employing the officer.
10 This immunity includes, but is not limited to, the use of a less lethal
11 weapon.

12 (2) For the purposes of this section, "less lethal weapon" means
13 any device that is designed to or that has been converted to expel or
14 propel less lethal ammunition by any action, mechanism, or process for
15 the purpose of incapacitating, immobilizing, or stunning a human being
16 through the infliction of any less than lethal impairment of physical
17 condition, function, or senses, including physical pain or discomfort.
18 It is not necessary that a weapon leave any lasting or permanent

1 incapacitation, discomfort, pain, or other injury or disability in
2 order to qualify as a less lethal weapon.

--- END ---