
HOUSE BILL 1288

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Orwall, Rodne, Jenkins, Walkinshaw, Cody, Moeller, Tharinger, and Gregerson

Read first time 01/16/15. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to directing a study of certain civil commitment
2 practices and laws; creating a new section; and providing an
3 expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The Washington state institute for
6 public policy is directed to complete a study by December 1, 2015,
7 regarding the implementation of certain aspects of the involuntary
8 treatment act under chapter 71.05 RCW. The study must include, but
9 not be limited to:

10 (a) An assessment of the nonemergent detention process provided
11 under RCW 71.05.150, which examines:

12 (i) The number of nonemergent petitions filed in each county by
13 year;

14 (ii) The reasons for variation in the use of nonemergent
15 detentions based on feedback from judicial officers, prosecutors,
16 public defenders, and mental health professionals; and

17 (iii) Models in other states for handling civil commitments when
18 imminent danger is not present.

19 (b) An analysis of less restrictive alternative orders under the
20 involuntary treatment act including:

1 (i) Differences across counties with respect to: (A) The use of
2 less restrictive alternatives and reasons why least restrictive
3 alternatives may or may not be utilized in different jurisdictions;
4 (B) monitoring practices; and (C) rates of, grounds for, and outcomes
5 of petitions for revocation or modification;
6 (ii) A systematic review of the research literature on the
7 effectiveness of alternatives to involuntary hospitalizations in
8 reducing violence and rehospitalizations; and
9 (iii) Approaches used in other states to monitor and enforce
10 least restrictive orders, including associated costs.
11 (2) This section expires June 30, 2016.

--- END ---