
SENATE BILL 5910

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Randall, Nguyen, Das, Palumbo, Saldaña, and Wilson, C.

Read first time 02/14/19. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to hospital notification of availability of
2 sexual assault evidence kit collection; adding a new section to
3 chapter 70.41 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.41
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) By July 1, 2020, any hospital that does not provide sexual
8 assault evidence kit collection, or does not have appropriate
9 providers available to provide sexual assault evidence kit collection
10 at all times, shall develop a plan, in consultation with the local
11 community sexual assault agency, to assist individuals with obtaining
12 sexual assault evidence kit collection at a facility that provides
13 such collection.

14 (2) Beginning July 1, 2020:

15 (a) If a hospital does not perform sexual assault evidence kit
16 collection or does not have appropriate providers available, the
17 hospital shall, within two hours of a request, provide notice to
18 every individual who presents in the emergency department of the
19 hospital and requests a sexual assault evidence kit collection that
20 the hospital does not perform such collection or does not have
21 appropriate providers available; and

1 (b) Pursuant to the plan required in subsection (1) of this
2 section, if the hospital does not perform sexual assault evidence kit
3 collection or does not have appropriate providers available, hospital
4 staff must coordinate care with the local community sexual assault
5 agency and assist the patient in finding a facility with an
6 appropriate provider available.

7 (3) Failure of a hospital to comply with this section is
8 punishable by a civil penalty of two thousand dollars.

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