
HOUSE BILL 1573

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Representatives Graham, Eslick, Caldier, Volz, Mosbrucker, Jacobsen, Dent, Walsh, Klicker, Goehner, Sutherland, Abbarno, Schmick, Orwall, Goodman, Simmons, Dolan, and Robertson

Read first time 04/10/21. Referred to Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to the appointment of counsel for crime victims;
2 and adding a new section to chapter 7.69 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 7.69 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The court shall provide counsel to a victim of any felony offense
7 at public expense when either: (1) The victim is unable to afford
8 counsel, or the expense of counsel would result in a substantial
9 hardship to the victim, or (2) the victim does not have practical
10 access to funds with which to pay counsel. Counsel shall assist the
11 victim in exercising the constitutional and statutory rights afforded
12 to victims found in Article I, section 35 of the state Constitution
13 and state law.

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