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**SENATE BILL 5664**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Dhingra, Keiser, and Nobles

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1 AN ACT Relating to forensic competency restoration programs;  
2 amending RCW 10.77.060, 10.77.068, 10.77.086, 10.77.088, 10.77.220,  
3 and 10.77.250; and reenacting and amending RCW 10.77.010.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 10.77.010 and 2021 c 263 s 9 are each reenacted and  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 As used in this chapter:

8 (1) "Admission" means acceptance based on medical necessity, of a  
9 person as a patient.

10 (2) "Commitment" means the determination by a court that a person  
11 should be detained for a period of either evaluation or treatment, or  
12 both, in an inpatient or a less-restrictive setting.

13 (3) "Community behavioral health agency" has the same meaning as  
14 "licensed or certified behavioral health agency" defined in RCW  
15 71.24.025.

16 (4) "Conditional release" means modification of a court-ordered  
17 commitment, which may be revoked upon violation of any of its terms.

18 (5) A "criminally insane" person means any person who has been  
19 acquitted of a crime charged by reason of insanity, and thereupon  
20 found to be a substantial danger to other persons or to present a  
21 substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing

1 public safety or security unless kept under further control by the  
2 court or other persons or institutions.

3 (6) "Department" means the state department of social and health  
4 services.

5 (7) "Designated crisis responder" has the same meaning as  
6 provided in RCW 71.05.020.

7 (8) "Detention" or "detain" means the lawful confinement of a  
8 person, under the provisions of this chapter, pending evaluation.

9 (9) "Developmental disabilities professional" means a person who  
10 has specialized training and three years of experience in directly  
11 treating or working with persons with developmental disabilities and  
12 is a psychiatrist or psychologist, or a social worker, and such other  
13 developmental disabilities professionals as may be defined by rules  
14 adopted by the secretary.

15 (10) "Developmental disability" means the condition as defined in  
16 RCW 71A.10.020(5).

17 (11) "Discharge" means the termination of hospital medical  
18 authority. The commitment may remain in place, be terminated, or be  
19 amended by court order.

20 (12) "Furlough" means an authorized leave of absence for a  
21 resident of a state institution operated by the department designated  
22 for the custody, care, and treatment of the criminally insane,  
23 consistent with an order of conditional release from the court under  
24 this chapter, without any requirement that the resident be  
25 accompanied by, or be in the custody of, any law enforcement or  
26 institutional staff, while on such unescorted leave.

27 (13) "Habilitative services" means those services provided by  
28 program personnel to assist persons in acquiring and maintaining life  
29 skills and in raising their levels of physical, mental, social, and  
30 vocational functioning. Habilitative services include education,  
31 training for employment, and therapy. The habilitative process shall  
32 be undertaken with recognition of the risk to the public safety  
33 presented by the person being assisted as manifested by prior charged  
34 criminal conduct.

35 (14) "History of one or more violent acts" means violent acts  
36 committed during: (a) The ten-year period of time prior to the filing  
37 of criminal charges; plus (b) the amount of time equal to time spent  
38 during the ten-year period in a mental health facility or in  
39 confinement as a result of a criminal conviction.

1 (15) "Immediate family member" means a spouse, child, stepchild,  
2 parent, stepparent, grandparent, sibling, or domestic partner.

3 (16) "Incompetency" means a person lacks the capacity to  
4 understand the nature of the proceedings against him or her or to  
5 assist in his or her own defense as a result of mental disease or  
6 defect.

7 (17) "Indigent" means any person who is financially unable to  
8 obtain counsel or other necessary expert or professional services  
9 without causing substantial hardship to the person or his or her  
10 family.

11 (18) "Individualized service plan" means a plan prepared by a  
12 developmental disabilities professional with other professionals as a  
13 team, for an individual with developmental disabilities, which shall  
14 state:

15 (a) The nature of the person's specific problems, prior charged  
16 criminal behavior, and habilitation needs;

17 (b) The conditions and strategies necessary to achieve the  
18 purposes of habilitation;

19 (c) The intermediate and long-range goals of the habilitation  
20 program, with a projected timetable for the attainment;

21 (d) The rationale for using this plan of habilitation to achieve  
22 those intermediate and long-range goals;

23 (e) The staff responsible for carrying out the plan;

24 (f) Where relevant in light of past criminal behavior and due  
25 consideration for public safety, the criteria for proposed movement  
26 to less-restrictive settings, criteria for proposed eventual release,  
27 and a projected possible date for release; and

28 (g) The type of residence immediately anticipated for the person  
29 and possible future types of residences.

30 (19) "Professional person" means:

31 (a) A psychiatrist licensed as a physician and surgeon in this  
32 state who has, in addition, completed three years of graduate  
33 training in psychiatry in a program approved by the American medical  
34 association or the American osteopathic association and is certified  
35 or eligible to be certified by the American board of psychiatry and  
36 neurology or the American osteopathic board of neurology and  
37 psychiatry;

38 (b) A psychologist licensed as a psychologist pursuant to chapter  
39 18.83 RCW; or

1 (c) A social worker with a master's or further advanced degree  
2 from a social work educational program accredited and approved as  
3 provided in RCW 18.320.010.

4 (20) "Release" means legal termination of the court-ordered  
5 commitment under the provisions of this chapter.

6 (21) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of social  
7 and health services or his or her designee.

8 (22) "Treatment" means any currently standardized medical or  
9 mental health procedure including medication.

10 (23) "Treatment records" include registration and all other  
11 records concerning persons who are receiving or who at any time have  
12 received services for mental illness, which are maintained by the  
13 department, by behavioral health administrative services  
14 organizations and their staffs, by managed care organizations and  
15 their staffs, and by treatment facilities. Treatment records do not  
16 include notes or records maintained for personal use by a person  
17 providing treatment services for the department, behavioral health  
18 administrative services organizations, managed care organizations, or  
19 a treatment facility if the notes or records are not available to  
20 others.

21 (24) "Violent act" means behavior that: (a) (i) Resulted in; (ii)  
22 if completed as intended would have resulted in; or (iii) was  
23 threatened to be carried out by a person who had the intent and  
24 opportunity to carry out the threat and would have resulted in,  
25 homicide, nonfatal injuries, or substantial damage to property; or  
26 (b) recklessly creates an immediate risk of serious physical injury  
27 to another person. As used in this subsection, "nonfatal injuries"  
28 means physical pain or injury, illness, or an impairment of physical  
29 condition. "Nonfatal injuries" shall be construed to be consistent  
30 with the definition of "bodily injury," as defined in RCW 9A.04.110.

31 (25) "Authority" means the Washington state health care  
32 authority.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 10.77.060 and 2021 c 263 s 5 are each amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (1) (a) Whenever a defendant has pleaded not guilty by reason of  
36 insanity, or there is reason to doubt his or her competency, the  
37 court on its own motion or on the motion of any party shall either  
38 appoint or request the secretary to designate a qualified expert or  
39 professional person, who shall be approved by the prosecuting

1 attorney, to evaluate and report upon the mental condition of the  
2 defendant.

3 (b) The signed order of the court shall serve as authority for  
4 the evaluator to be given access to all records held by any mental  
5 health, medical, educational, or correctional facility that relate to  
6 the present or past mental, emotional, or physical condition of the  
7 defendant. If the court is advised by any party that the defendant  
8 may have a developmental disability, the evaluation must be performed  
9 by a developmental disabilities professional and the evaluator shall  
10 have access to records of the developmental disabilities  
11 administration of the department.

12 (c) The evaluator shall assess the defendant in a jail, detention  
13 facility, in the community, or in court to determine whether a period  
14 of inpatient commitment will be necessary to complete an accurate  
15 evaluation. If inpatient commitment is needed, the signed order of  
16 the court shall serve as authority for the evaluator to request the  
17 jail or detention facility to transport the defendant to a hospital  
18 or secure mental health facility for a period of commitment not to  
19 exceed fifteen days from the time of admission to the facility.  
20 Otherwise, the evaluator shall complete the evaluation.

21 (d) The court may commit the defendant for evaluation to a  
22 hospital or secure mental health facility without an assessment if:  
23 (i) The defendant is charged with murder in the first or second  
24 degree; (ii) the court finds that it is more likely than not that an  
25 evaluation in the jail will be inadequate to complete an accurate  
26 evaluation; or (iii) the court finds that an evaluation outside the  
27 jail setting is necessary for the health, safety, or welfare of the  
28 defendant. The court shall not order an initial inpatient evaluation  
29 for any purpose other than a competency evaluation.

30 (e) The order shall indicate whether, in the event the defendant  
31 is committed to a hospital or secure mental health facility for  
32 evaluation, all parties agree to waive the presence of the defendant  
33 or to the defendant's remote participation at a subsequent competency  
34 hearing or presentation of an agreed order if the recommendation of  
35 the evaluator is for continuation of the stay of criminal  
36 proceedings, or if the opinion of the evaluator is that the defendant  
37 remains incompetent and there is no remaining restoration period, and  
38 the hearing is held prior to the expiration of the authorized  
39 commitment period.

1 (f) When a defendant is ordered to be evaluated under this  
2 subsection (1), or when a party or the court determines at first  
3 appearance that an order for evaluation under this subsection will be  
4 requested or ordered if charges are pursued, the court may delay  
5 granting bail until the defendant has been evaluated for competency  
6 or sanity and appears before the court. Following the evaluation, in  
7 determining bail the court shall consider: (i) Recommendations of the  
8 evaluator regarding the defendant's competency, sanity, or diminished  
9 capacity; (ii) whether the defendant has a recent history of one or  
10 more violent acts; (iii) whether the defendant has previously been  
11 acquitted by reason of insanity or found incompetent; (iv) whether it  
12 is reasonably likely the defendant will fail to appear for a future  
13 court hearing; and (v) whether the defendant is a threat to public  
14 safety.

15 (2) The court may direct that a qualified expert or professional  
16 person retained by or appointed for the defendant be permitted to  
17 witness the evaluation authorized by subsection (1) of this section,  
18 and that the defendant shall have access to all information obtained  
19 by the court appointed experts or professional persons. The  
20 defendant's expert or professional person shall have the right to  
21 file his or her own report following the guidelines of subsection (3)  
22 of this section. If the defendant is indigent, the court shall upon  
23 the request of the defendant assist him or her in obtaining an expert  
24 or professional person.

25 (3) The report of the evaluation shall include the following:

26 (a) A description of the nature of the evaluation;

27 (b) A diagnosis or description of the current mental status of  
28 the defendant;

29 (c) If the defendant suffers from a mental disease or defect, or  
30 has a developmental disability, an opinion as to competency;

31 (d) If the defendant has indicated his or her intention to rely  
32 on the defense of insanity pursuant to RCW 10.77.030, and an  
33 evaluation and report by an expert or professional person has been  
34 provided concluding that the defendant was criminally insane at the  
35 time of the alleged offense, an opinion as to the defendant's sanity  
36 at the time of the act, and an opinion as to whether the defendant  
37 presents a substantial danger to other persons, or presents a  
38 substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing  
39 public safety or security, unless kept under further control by the  
40 court or other persons or institutions, provided that no opinion

1 shall be rendered under this subsection (3)(d) unless the evaluator  
2 or court determines that the defendant is competent to stand trial;

3 (e) When directed by the court, if an evaluation and report by an  
4 expert or professional person has been provided concluding that the  
5 defendant lacked the capacity at the time of the offense to form the  
6 mental state necessary to commit the charged offense, an opinion as  
7 to the capacity of the defendant to have a particular state of mind  
8 which is an element of the offense charged;

9 (f) An opinion as to whether the defendant should be evaluated by  
10 a designated crisis responder under chapter 71.05 RCW.

11 (4) The secretary may execute such agreements as appropriate and  
12 necessary to implement this section and may choose to designate more  
13 than one evaluator.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 10.77.068 and 2015 c 5 s 1 are each amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 (1)(a) The legislature establishes (~~the following~~) a  
17 performance (~~targets and maximum time limits for the timeliness of~~  
18 ~~the completion of accurate and reliable evaluations of competency to~~  
19 ~~stand trial and admissions for inpatient restoration services related~~  
20 ~~to competency to proceed or stand trial for adult criminal~~  
21 ~~defendants~~) target of seven days or fewer for the following services  
22 related to competency to stand trial, when access to the services is  
23 legally authorized:

24 (i) To extend an offer of admission to a defendant in pretrial  
25 custody for inpatient competency evaluation or inpatient competency  
26 restoration services;

27 (ii) To extend an offer of admission to a defendant ordered to be  
28 committed to a state hospital following dismissal of charges based on  
29 incompetency to stand trial under RCW 10.77.086; and

30 (iii) To complete a competency evaluation in jail and distribute  
31 the evaluation report.

32 (b) The legislature establishes a performance target of 21 days  
33 or fewer to complete a competency evaluation in the community and  
34 distribute the evaluation report.

35 (2) A maximum time limit of 14 days is established to complete  
36 the services specified in subsection (1)(a) of this section, subject  
37 to the limitations under subsection (9) of this section.

38 (3) The legislature recognizes that these targets may not be  
39 achievable in all cases (~~without compromise to the quality of~~

1 ~~competency evaluation and restoration services)), but intends for the~~  
2 ~~department to manage, allocate, and request appropriations for~~  
3 ~~resources in order to meet these targets whenever possible without~~  
4 ~~sacrificing the accuracy and quality of competency ((evaluations and~~  
5 ~~restorations, and to otherwise make sustainable improvements and~~  
6 ~~track performance related to the timeliness of competency services:~~

7 ~~(i) For a state hospital to extend an offer of admission to a~~  
8 ~~defendant in pretrial custody for legally authorized evaluation~~  
9 ~~services related to competency, or to extend an offer of admission~~  
10 ~~for legally authorized services following dismissal of charges based~~  
11 ~~on incompetence to proceed or stand trial:~~

12 ~~(A) A performance target of seven days or less; and~~

13 ~~(B) A maximum time limit of fourteen days;~~

14 ~~(ii) For a state hospital to extend an offer of admission to a~~  
15 ~~defendant in pretrial custody for legally authorized inpatient~~  
16 ~~restoration treatment related to competency:~~

17 ~~(A) A performance target of seven days or less; and~~

18 ~~(B) A maximum time limit of fourteen days;~~

19 ~~(iii) For completion of a competency evaluation in jail and~~  
20 ~~distribution of the evaluation report for a defendant in pretrial~~  
21 ~~custody:~~

22 ~~(A) A performance target of seven days or less; and~~

23 ~~(B) A maximum time limit of fourteen days, plus an additional~~  
24 ~~seven-day extension if needed for clinical reasons to complete the~~  
25 ~~evaluation at the determination of the department;~~

26 ~~(iv) For completion of a competency evaluation in the community~~  
27 ~~and distribution of the evaluation report for a defendant who is~~  
28 ~~released from custody and makes a reasonable effort to cooperate with~~  
29 ~~the evaluation, a performance target of twenty-one days or less))~~  
30 services.

31 ~~((b)) The time periods measured in ((these performance targets~~  
32 ~~and maximum time limits)) subsection (1) of this section shall run~~  
33 ~~from the date on which the state hospital receives the court referral~~  
34 ~~and charging documents, discovery, police reports, the names and~~  
35 ~~addresses of the attorneys for the defendant and state or county, the~~  
36 ~~name of the judge ordering the evaluation, information about the~~  
37 ~~alleged crime, and criminal history information related to the~~  
38 ~~defendant. ((The maximum time limits in (a) of this subsection shall~~  
39 ~~be phased in over a one-year period beginning July 1, 2015, in a~~



1 ~~manner that results in measurable incremental progress toward meeting~~  
2 ~~the time limits over the course of the year.~~

3 ~~(e))~~ (4) It shall be a defense to an allegation that the  
4 department has exceeded the maximum time limits for completion of  
5 competency services described in ~~((a) of this))~~ subsection (2) of  
6 this section if the department can demonstrate by a preponderance of  
7 the evidence that the reason for exceeding the maximum time limits  
8 was outside of the department's control including, but not limited  
9 to, the following circumstances:

10 ~~((i))~~ (a) Despite a timely request, the department has not  
11 received necessary medical ~~((clearance))~~ information regarding the  
12 current medical status of a defendant ~~((in pretrial custody for the~~  
13 ~~purposes of admission to a state hospital))~~;

14 ~~((ii))~~ (b) The individual circumstances of the defendant make  
15 accurate completion of an evaluation of competency to proceed or  
16 stand trial dependent upon review of mental health, substance use  
17 disorder, or medical history information which is in the custody of a  
18 third party and cannot be immediately obtained by the department ~~((~~  
19 ~~Completion of a competency evaluation))~~, provided that completion  
20 shall not be postponed for procurement of ~~((mental health, substance~~  
21 ~~use disorder, or medical history))~~ information which is merely  
22 supplementary ~~((to the competency determination))~~;

23 ~~((iii))~~ (c) Additional time is needed for the defendant to no  
24 longer show active signs and symptoms of impairment related to  
25 substance use so that an accurate evaluation may be completed;

26 (d) Completion of the referral ~~((is frustrated by lack of))~~  
27 requires additional time to accommodate the availability or  
28 participation ~~((by))~~ of counsel, ~~((jail or))~~ court personnel,  
29 interpreters, or the defendant;

30 ~~((iv) The department does not have access to appropriate private~~  
31 ~~space to conduct a competency evaluation for a defendant in pretrial~~  
32 ~~custody;~~

33 ~~(v))~~ (e) The defendant asserts legal rights that result in a  
34 delay in the provision of competency services; or

35 ~~((vi))~~ (f) An unusual spike in the receipt of evaluation  
36 referrals or in the number of defendants requiring restoration  
37 services has occurred, causing temporary delays until the unexpected  
38 excess demand for competency services can be resolved.

39 ~~((2))~~ (5) The department shall provide written notice to the  
40 court when it will not be able to meet the maximum time limits under

1 subsection (2) of this section and identify the reasons for the delay  
2 and provide a reasonable estimate of the time necessary to complete  
3 the evaluation. Good cause for an extension for the additional time  
4 estimated by the department shall be presumed absent a written  
5 response from the court or a party received by the department within  
6 seven days.

7 (6) The department shall:

8 (a) Develop, document, and implement procedures to monitor the  
9 clinical status of defendants admitted to a state hospital for  
10 competency services that allow the state hospital to accomplish early  
11 discharge for defendants for whom clinical objectives have been  
12 achieved or may be achieved before expiration of the commitment  
13 period;

14 (b) Investigate the extent to which patients admitted to a state  
15 hospital under this chapter overstay time periods authorized by law  
16 and take reasonable steps to limit the time of commitment to  
17 authorized periods; and

18 (c) Establish written standards for the productivity of forensic  
19 evaluators and utilize these standards to internally review the  
20 performance of forensic evaluators.

21 ~~((3))~~ (7) Following any quarter in which a state hospital has  
22 failed to meet one or more of the performance targets or maximum time  
23 limits ~~((in))~~ under subsection (1) or (2) of this section ~~((after~~  
24 full implementation of the performance target or maximum time  
25 limit)), the department shall report to the executive and the  
26 legislature the extent of this deviation and describe any corrective  
27 action being taken to improve performance. This report ~~((must))~~ shall  
28 be made publicly available. An average may be used to determine  
29 timeliness under this subsection.

30 ~~((4) Beginning December 1, 2013, the))~~ (8) The department shall  
31 report annually to the legislature and the executive on the  
32 timeliness of services related to competency to ~~((proceed or))~~ stand  
33 trial and the timeliness with which court referrals accompanied by  
34 charging documents, discovery, and criminal history information are  
35 provided to the department relative to the signature date of the  
36 court order. The report must be in a form that is accessible to the  
37 public and that breaks down performance by county.

38 ~~((5))~~ (9) This section does not create any new entitlement or  
39 cause of action related to the timeliness of competency ~~((evaluations~~  
40 or admission for inpatient restoration)) to stand trial services

1 (~~related to competency to proceed or stand trial~~), nor can it form  
2 the basis for contempt sanctions under chapter 7.21 RCW or a motion  
3 to dismiss criminal charges.

4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 10.77.086 and 2019 c 326 s 4 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) ~~((a)(i))~~ If the defendant is charged with a felony and  
7 determined to be incompetent, until he or she has regained the  
8 competency necessary to understand the proceedings against him or her  
9 and assist in his or her own defense, but in any event for a period  
10 of no longer than ~~((ninety))~~ 90 days, the court shall commit the  
11 defendant to the custody of the secretary for inpatient competency  
12 restoration ~~((Based))~~, or may alternatively order the defendant to  
13 receive outpatient competency restoration based on a recommendation  
14 from a forensic navigator and input from the parties ~~((, the court may~~  
15 ~~order the defendant to receive inpatient competency restoration or~~  
16 ~~outpatient competency restoration))~~.

17 ~~((A))~~ (a) To be eligible for an order for outpatient competency  
18 restoration, a defendant must be clinically appropriate and be  
19 willing to:

- 20 ~~((I))~~ (i) Adhere to medications or receive prescribed  
21 intramuscular medication; ~~((and~~
- 22 ~~((II))~~ (ii) Abstain from alcohol and unprescribed drugs; and
- 23 (iii) Comply with urinalysis or breathalyzer monitoring if  
24 needed.

25 ~~((B))~~ (b) If the court orders inpatient competency restoration,  
26 the department shall place the defendant in an appropriate facility  
27 of the department for competency restoration.

28 ~~((C))~~ (c) If the court orders outpatient competency  
29 restoration, the court shall modify conditions of release as needed  
30 to authorize the department to place the person in approved housing,  
31 which may include access to supported housing, affiliated with a  
32 contracted outpatient competency restoration program. The department,  
33 in conjunction with the health care authority, must establish rules  
34 for conditions of participation in the outpatient competency  
35 restoration program, which must include the defendant being subject  
36 to medication management and regular urinalysis testing for  
37 defendants who have a current substance use disorder diagnosis. The  
38 outpatient competency restoration program shall monitor the defendant  
39 during the defendant's placement in the program and report any

1 noncompliance or significant changes with respect to the defendant to  
2 the department and, if applicable, the forensic navigator.

3 ~~((D))~~ (d) If a defendant fails to comply with the restrictions  
4 of the outpatient restoration program such that restoration is no  
5 longer appropriate in that setting or the defendant is no longer  
6 clinically appropriate for outpatient competency restoration, the  
7 ~~((department shall remove the defendant from the outpatient~~  
8 ~~restoration program and place the defendant instead))~~ director of the  
9 outpatient competency restoration program shall notify the authority  
10 and the department of the need to terminate the outpatient competency  
11 restoration program and intent to request placement for the defendant  
12 in an appropriate facility of the department for inpatient competency  
13 restoration ((for no longer than the time allowed as if the defendant  
14 had been initially placed into inpatient competency restoration, in  
15 addition to reasonable time for transport to or from the facility)).  
16 The outpatient competency restoration program shall coordinate with  
17 the authority, the department, and any law enforcement personnel  
18 under (d)(i) of this subsection to ensure that the time period  
19 between termination and acceptance into the inpatient facility is as  
20 minimal as possible. The time period for inpatient competency  
21 restoration shall be the same as if the outpatient competency  
22 restoration had not occurred, starting from admission to the  
23 facility. The department shall obtain a placement for the defendant  
24 within seven days of the notice of termination of the outpatient  
25 competency restoration program.

26 (i) The department may cause a peace officer to take the  
27 defendant into emergency custody for transport to a crisis  
28 stabilization unit, evaluation and treatment facility, emergency  
29 department of a local hospital, or triage facility for medical  
30 clearance, and thereafter to the designated inpatient competency  
31 restoration facility. The signed outpatient competency restoration  
32 order of the court shall serve as authority for the detention of the  
33 defendant under this subsection. This subsection does not preclude  
34 voluntary transportation of the defendant to a facility for medical  
35 clearance or inpatient competency restoration, or authorize admission  
36 of the defendant into jail.

37 (ii) The department shall notify the court and parties of the  
38 ((change in placement)) defendant's admission for inpatient  
39 competency restoration before the close of the next judicial day. The  
40 court shall schedule a hearing within five days to review the

1 (~~placement and~~) conditions of release of the defendant and  
2 anticipated release from treatment and issue appropriate orders. The  
3 standard of proof shall be a preponderance of the evidence, and the  
4 court may in its discretion render its decision based on written  
5 submissions, live testimony, or remote testimony.

6 (~~(E)~~) (e) The court may not issue an order for outpatient  
7 competency restoration unless the department certifies that there is  
8 an available appropriate outpatient competency restoration program  
9 that has adequate space for the person at the time the order is  
10 issued or the court places the defendant under the guidance and  
11 control of a professional person identified in the court order.

12 (~~(ii)~~) ~~The ninety day period for competency restoration under~~  
13 ~~this subsection (1) includes only the time the defendant is actually~~  
14 ~~at the facility and is in addition to reasonable time for transport~~  
15 ~~to or from the facility.~~

16 ~~(b)~~) (2) For a defendant whose highest charge is a class C  
17 felony, or a class B felony that is not classified as violent under  
18 RCW 9.94A.030, the maximum time allowed for the initial felony  
19 competency restoration period (~~(of commitment for competency~~  
20 ~~restoration)~~) is (~~(forty-five)~~) 45 days. (~~The forty-five day period~~  
21 ~~includes only the time the defendant is actually at the facility and~~  
22 ~~is in addition to reasonable time for transport to or from the~~  
23 ~~facility.~~

24 ~~(e)~~) (3) If the court determines or the parties agree before the  
25 initial felony competency restoration period or at any subsequent  
26 stage of the proceedings that the defendant is unlikely to regain  
27 competency, the court may dismiss the charges without prejudice  
28 without ordering the defendant to undergo an initial or further  
29 period of competency restoration treatment, in which case the court  
30 shall order that the defendant be referred for evaluation for civil  
31 commitment in the manner provided in subsection (~~(4)~~) (5) of this  
32 section.

33 (~~(2)~~) (4) On or before expiration of the initial felony  
34 competency restoration period (~~(of commitment under subsection (1) of~~  
35 ~~this section)~~) the court shall conduct a hearing (~~(, at which it~~  
36 ~~shall)~~) to determine whether (~~(or not)~~) the defendant is  
37 (~~(incompetent. (3))~~) now competent to stand trial. If the court finds  
38 by a preponderance of the evidence that (~~(a)~~) the defendant (~~(charged~~  
39 ~~with a felony)~~) is incompetent to stand trial, the court (~~(shall have~~  
40 ~~the option of extending the)~~) may order (~~(of commitment or~~

1 ~~alternative treatment))~~ an extension of the competency restoration  
2 period for an additional period of (~~ninety~~) 90 days, but the court  
3 must at the same time (~~of extension~~) set a date for a (~~prompt~~)  
4 new hearing to determine the defendant's competency to stand trial  
5 before the expiration of (~~the~~) this second restoration period. The  
6 defendant, the defendant's attorney, (~~or~~) and the prosecutor  
7 (~~has~~) have the right to demand that the hearing be before a jury.  
8 No extension shall be ordered for a second or third felony competency  
9 restoration period (~~as provided in subsection (4) of this section~~)  
10 if the defendant's incompetence has been determined by the secretary  
11 to be solely the result of a developmental disability which is such  
12 that competence is not reasonably likely to be regained during an  
13 extension. (~~The ninety-day period includes only the time the~~  
14 ~~defendant is actually at the facility and is in addition to~~  
15 ~~reasonable time for transport to or from the facility.~~

16 ~~(4) For persons charged with a felony, at)~~

17 (5) At the hearing upon the expiration of the second felony  
18 competency restoration period, or at the end of the first felony  
19 competency restoration period (~~in the case of a~~) if the defendant  
20 (~~with a developmental disability~~) is ineligible for a second or  
21 third competency restoration period under subsection (4) of this  
22 section, if the jury or court finds that the defendant is  
23 incompetent (~~, or if the court or jury at any stage finds that the~~  
24 ~~defendant is incompetent and the court determines that the defendant~~  
25 ~~is unlikely to regain competency, the charges shall be dismissed)~~) to  
26 stand trial, the court shall dismiss the charges without  
27 prejudice (~~r~~) and (~~the court shall~~) order the defendant to be  
28 committed to a state hospital (~~as defined in RCW 72.23.010~~) for up  
29 to (~~seventy-two~~) 120 hours starting from admission to the facility,  
30 excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, for evaluation for the  
31 purpose of filing a civil commitment petition under chapter 71.05  
32 RCW. (~~The criminal charges~~) However, the court shall not (~~be~~  
33 ~~dismissed~~) dismiss the charges if the court or jury finds that: (a)  
34 The defendant (i) is a substantial danger to other persons; or (ii)  
35 presents a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts  
36 jeopardizing public safety or security; and (b) there is a  
37 substantial probability that the defendant will regain competency  
38 within a reasonable period of time. (~~In the event that~~) If the  
39 court or jury makes such a finding, the court may extend the period  
40 of commitment for up to an additional six months. (~~The six-month~~)

1       (6) Any period of competency restoration treatment under this  
2 section includes only the time the defendant is actually at the  
3 facility and is in addition to reasonable time for transport to or  
4 from the facility.

5       **Sec. 5.** RCW 10.77.088 and 2020 c 18 s 4 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7       (1) If the defendant is charged with a nonfelony crime which is a  
8 serious offense as identified in RCW 10.77.092 and found by the court  
9 to be not competent, then the court:

10       (a) Shall dismiss the proceedings without prejudice and detain  
11 the defendant for sufficient time to allow the designated crisis  
12 responder to evaluate the defendant and consider initial detention  
13 proceedings under chapter 71.05 RCW, unless the prosecutor objects to  
14 the dismissal and provides notice of a motion for an order for  
15 nonfelony competency restoration treatment, in which case the court  
16 shall schedule a hearing within seven days (~~(to determine whether to~~  
17 ~~enter an order of competency restoration)~~).

18       (b) At the hearing, the prosecuting attorney must establish that  
19 there is a compelling state interest to order nonfelony competency  
20 restoration treatment for the defendant. The court may consider prior  
21 criminal history, prior history in treatment, prior history of  
22 violence, the quality and severity of the pending charges, any  
23 history that suggests whether (~~(or not)~~) nonfelony competency  
24 restoration treatment is likely to be successful, in addition to the  
25 factors listed under RCW 10.77.092. If the prosecuting attorney  
26 proves by a preponderance of the evidence that there is a compelling  
27 state interest in ordering nonfelony competency restoration  
28 treatment, then the court shall issue an order (~~(competency~~  
29 ~~restoration)~~) in accordance with subsection (2)(~~(a)~~) of this  
30 section.

31       (2)(~~(a)~~) If a court finds pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this  
32 section that there is a compelling state interest in pursuing  
33 nonfelony competency restoration treatment, (~~(then)~~) the court shall  
34 commit the defendant to the custody of the secretary for inpatient  
35 competency restoration(~~(. Based)~~), or may alternatively order the  
36 defendant to receive outpatient competency restoration based on a  
37 recommendation from a forensic navigator and input from the  
38 parties(~~(, the court may order the defendant to receive inpatient~~  
39 ~~competency restoration or outpatient competency restoration)~~).

1        ~~((i))~~ (a) To be eligible for an order for outpatient competency  
2 restoration, a defendant must be clinically appropriate and be  
3 willing to:

4        ~~((A))~~ (i) Adhere to medications or receive prescribed  
5 intramuscular medication; ~~(and~~

6        ~~(B))~~ (ii) Abstain from alcohol and unprescribed drugs; and  
7        (iii) Comply with urinalysis or breathalyzer monitoring if  
8 needed.

9        ~~((ii))~~ (b) If the court orders inpatient competency  
10 restoration, the department shall place the defendant in an  
11 appropriate facility of the department for competency restoration  
12 under ~~((b))~~ subsection (3) of this ~~((subsection))~~ section.

13        ~~((iii))~~ (c) If the court orders outpatient competency  
14 restoration, the court shall modify conditions of release as needed  
15 to authorize the department to place the person in approved housing,  
16 which may include access to supported housing, affiliated with a  
17 contracted outpatient competency restoration program. The department,  
18 in conjunction with the health care authority, must establish rules  
19 for conditions of participation in the outpatient competency  
20 restoration program, which must include the defendant being subject  
21 to medication management and regular urinalysis testing for  
22 defendants who have a current substance use disorder diagnosis. The  
23 outpatient competency restoration program shall monitor the defendant  
24 during the defendant's placement in the program and report any  
25 noncompliance or significant changes with respect to the defendant to  
26 the department and, if applicable, the forensic navigator.

27        ~~((iv))~~ (d) If a defendant fails to comply with the restrictions  
28 of the outpatient competency restoration program such that  
29 restoration is no longer appropriate in that setting or the defendant  
30 is no longer clinically appropriate for outpatient competency  
31 restoration, the ~~((department shall remove the defendant from the~~  
32 ~~outpatient restoration program. The department shall place the~~  
33 ~~defendant instead))~~ director of the outpatient competency restoration  
34 program shall notify the authority and the department of the need to  
35 terminate the outpatient competency restoration program and intent to  
36 request placement for the defendant in an appropriate facility of the  
37 department for inpatient competency restoration ~~((for no longer than~~  
38 ~~twenty-nine days regardless of any time spent in outpatient~~  
39 ~~competency restoration, in addition to reasonable time for transport~~  
40 ~~to or from the facility))~~. The outpatient competency restoration



1 program shall coordinate with the authority, the department, and any  
2 law enforcement personnel under (d)(i) of this subsection to ensure  
3 that the time period between termination and acceptance into the  
4 inpatient facility is as minimal as possible. The time period for  
5 inpatient competency restoration shall be the same as if the  
6 outpatient competency restoration had not occurred, starting from  
7 admission to the facility. The department shall obtain a placement  
8 for the defendant within seven days of the notice of termination of  
9 the outpatient competency restoration program.

10 (i) The department may cause a peace officer to take the  
11 defendant into emergency custody for transport to a crisis  
12 stabilization unit, evaluation and treatment facility, emergency  
13 department of a local hospital, or triage facility for medical  
14 clearance, and thereafter to the designated inpatient competency  
15 restoration facility. The signed outpatient competency restoration  
16 order of the court shall serve as authority for the detention of the  
17 defendant under this subsection. This subsection does not preclude  
18 voluntary transportation of the defendant to a facility for medical  
19 clearance or inpatient competency restoration, or authorize admission  
20 of the defendant into jail.

21 (ii) The department shall notify the court and parties of the  
22 (~~change in placement~~) defendant's admission for inpatient  
23 competency restoration before the close of the next judicial day. The  
24 court shall schedule a hearing within five days to review the  
25 (~~placement and~~) conditions of release of the defendant and  
26 anticipated release from treatment and issue appropriate orders. The  
27 standard of proof shall be a preponderance of the evidence, and the  
28 court may in its discretion render its decision based on written  
29 submissions, live testimony, or remote testimony.

30 (~~(v)~~) (e) The court may not issue an order for outpatient  
31 competency restoration unless the department certifies that there is  
32 an available appropriate outpatient restoration program that has  
33 adequate space for the person at the time the order is issued or the  
34 court places the defendant under the guidance and control of a  
35 professional person identified in the court order.

36 (~~(b)~~) (3) The placement under (~~(a)~~) subsection (2) of this  
37 (~~subsection~~) section shall not exceed (~~twenty-nine~~) 29 days if  
38 the defendant is ordered to receive inpatient competency restoration,  
39 (~~or~~) and shall not exceed (~~ninety~~) 90 days if the defendant is  
40 ordered to receive outpatient competency restoration. The court may

1 order any combination of this subsection, not to exceed (~~ninety~~) 90  
2 days. (~~This period must be considered to include only the time the~~  
3 ~~defendant is actually at the facility and shall be in addition to~~  
4 ~~reasonable time for transport to or from the facility.~~

5 ~~(e)~~) (4) If the court has determined or the parties agree that  
6 the defendant is unlikely to regain competency, the court may dismiss  
7 the charges without prejudice without ordering the defendant to  
8 undergo nonfelony competency restoration treatment, in which case the  
9 court shall order that the defendant be referred for evaluation for  
10 civil commitment in the manner provided in (~~(d)~~) subsection (5) of  
11 this (~~subsection~~) section.

12 (~~(d)(i)~~) (5)(a) If the proceedings are dismissed under RCW  
13 10.77.084 and the defendant was on conditional release at the time of  
14 dismissal, the court shall order the designated crisis responder  
15 within that county to evaluate the defendant pursuant to chapter  
16 71.05 RCW. The evaluation may be conducted in any location chosen by  
17 the professional.

18 (~~(ii)~~) (b) If the defendant was in custody and not on  
19 conditional release at the time of dismissal, the defendant shall be  
20 detained and sent to an evaluation and treatment facility for up to  
21 (~~seventy-two~~) 120 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and  
22 holidays, for evaluation for purposes of filing a petition under  
23 chapter 71.05 RCW. The (~~seventy-two~~) 120-hour period shall commence  
24 upon the next nonholiday weekday following the court order and shall  
25 run to the end of the last nonholiday weekday within the (~~seventy-~~  
26 ~~two~~) 120-hour period.

27 (~~(3)~~) (6) If the defendant is charged with a nonfelony crime  
28 that is not a serious offense as defined in RCW 10.77.092 and found  
29 by the court to be not competent, the court may stay or dismiss  
30 proceedings and detain the defendant for sufficient time to allow the  
31 designated crisis responder to evaluate the defendant and consider  
32 initial detention proceedings under chapter 71.05 RCW. The court must  
33 give notice to all parties at least (~~twenty-four~~) 24 hours before  
34 the dismissal of any proceeding under this subsection, and provide an  
35 opportunity for a hearing on whether to dismiss the proceedings.

36 (~~(4)~~) (7) If at any time the court dismisses charges under  
37 subsections (1) through (~~(3)~~) (6) of this section, the court shall  
38 make a finding as to whether the defendant has a history of one or  
39 more violent acts. If the court so finds, the defendant is barred  
40 from the possession of firearms until a court restores his or her

1 right to possess a firearm under RCW 9.41.047. The court shall state  
2 to the defendant and provide written notice that the defendant is  
3 barred from the possession of firearms and that the prohibition  
4 remains in effect until a court restores his or her right to possess  
5 a firearm under RCW 9.41.047.

6 (8) Any period of competency restoration treatment under this  
7 section includes only the time the defendant is actually at the  
8 facility and is in addition to reasonable time for transport to or  
9 from the facility.

10 **Sec. 6.** RCW 10.77.220 and 2015 1st sp.s. c 7 s 8 are each  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (1) No person who is criminally insane confined pursuant to this  
13 chapter shall be incarcerated in a state correctional institution or  
14 facility. This section does not apply to confinement in a mental  
15 health facility located wholly within a correctional institution.  
16 Confinement of a person who is criminally insane in a county jail or  
17 other local facility while awaiting either placement in a treatment  
18 program or a court hearing pursuant to this chapter is permitted for  
19 no more than seven days.

20 (2) In the event that a person remains in jail 21 days after  
21 service on the department of a court order to transport the person to  
22 a facility designated by the department for inpatient competency  
23 restoration treatment, the department shall upon the request of any  
24 party perform a competency to stand trial status check at reasonable  
25 intervals to determine if the circumstances of the person have  
26 changed since the competency evaluation, and provide a status update  
27 to the parties and the court.

28 **Sec. 7.** RCW 10.77.250 and 1987 c 75 s 1 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 ~~((The))~~ (1) Within amounts appropriated, the department shall be  
31 responsible for all costs relating to the evaluation and treatment of  
32 persons committed to it pursuant to any provisions of this chapter,  
33 and the logistical and supportive services pertaining thereto except  
34 as otherwise provided by law. Reimbursement may be obtained by the  
35 department pursuant to RCW 43.20B.330.

1       (2) Within amounts appropriated, the authority shall be  
2 responsible for all costs relating to outpatient competency  
3 restoration programs.

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