S-0217.2

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**SENATE BILL 5070**

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**State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Nobles, Dhingra, Frame, Hasegawa, Nguyen, and C. Wilson

AN ACT Relating to victims of nonfatal strangulation; amending RCW 7.68.803; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 7.68.803 and 2021 c 269 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) No costs incurred by a hospital or other emergency medical facility for the examination of the victim of domestic violence assault involving nonfatal strangulation, when such examination is performed for the purposes of gathering evidence for possible prosecution, shall be billed or charged directly or indirectly to the victim of such assault. Such costs shall be paid by the state pursuant to this chapter.

(2) The department must notify the office of financial management and the fiscal committees of the legislature if it projects that the cost of services provided under this section exceeds the amount of funding provided by the legislature solely for the purposes of this section.

((~~(3) No later than October 1, 2022, the department shall report to the legislature the following information for fiscal year 2022:~~

~~(a) The number, type, and amount of claims received by victims of suspected nonfatal strangulation, with a subtotal of claims that also involved sexual assault;~~

~~(b) The number, type, and amount of claims paid for victims of suspected nonfatal strangulation, with a subtotal of claims that also involved sexual assault; and~~

~~(c) The number of police reports filed by victims of suspected nonfatal strangulation who received services under this section.~~

~~(4) This section expires June 30, 2023.~~))

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect June 30, 2023.

**--- END ---**