
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1816

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By House Technology, Economic Development, & Veterans (originally sponsored by Representatives Scott, Parshley, Farivar, Dufault, Fitzgibbon, Davis, Goodman, Obras, Taylor, Pollet, Nance, Ryu, Hill, and Cortes)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to civilian-staffed crisis response teams;
2 reenacting and amending RCW 42.56.230; and adding a new section to
3 chapter 38.52 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 38.52
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) A political subdivision with more than 200,000 residents may
8 establish and maintain a civilian-staffed crisis response team
9 operating outside of a general authority Washington law enforcement
10 agency to support the political subdivision's goal of providing a
11 nonlaw enforcement response to individuals in crisis, in need of a
12 safety and welfare check, or a request for resources, whenever such a
13 response is appropriate.

14 (2) The crisis response team is authorized to serve as a primary
15 response to 911 calls when there is no report of active or imminent
16 violence or possession of weapons and when the calls are regarding:

17 (a) A person in crisis with no request for law enforcement;

18 (b) A person who appears to need, or is reported to need, a
19 safety and welfare check; or

20 (c) A request by a member of the public for resources including,
21 but not limited to, shelter, food, or transportation.

1 (3) For calls not included in subsection (2) of this section, the
2 crisis response team may also serve as a secondary response in
3 support of a law enforcement response as determined by the executive
4 head of the political subdivision.

5 (4) The crisis response team is authorized to initiate a field
6 response when the team observes an event that meets the criteria in
7 subsection (2) of this section.

8 (5)(a) The executive head of an eligible political subdivision
9 will consult with any of the following entities that are active
10 within the political subdivision's jurisdiction to set minimum
11 qualifications for the crisis response team:

12 (i) The Washington health care authority;

13 (ii) The behavioral health administrative services organization
14 serving the political subdivision's jurisdiction;

15 (iii) The operators of mobile crisis teams administered by the
16 behavioral health administrative services organization; or

17 (iv) The 988 call center hub for the region.

18 (b) The executive head must solicit input from the entities in
19 (a) of this subsection on the crisis response team's:

20 (i) Services provided;

21 (ii) Qualifications;

22 (iii) Training;

23 (iv) Types of calls in which primary 911 dispatch is appropriate;

24 (v) Deployable areas; and

25 (vi) Hours of operation.

26 (c) Minimum qualifications must include training in scene safety,
27 de-escalation, and interacting with individuals in crisis.

28 (d) The executive head of the political subdivision may determine
29 the characteristics of the crisis response team including, but not
30 limited to:

31 (i) The department in which the crisis response team is situated;
32 and

33 (ii) The number of staff assigned to the crisis response team.

34 (6) The alternative 911 response constituted in this section is
35 deemed a third 911 first responder, parallel to law enforcement and
36 fire response. The wages, hours, and other working conditions of all
37 first responder personnel shall be subject to collective bargaining
38 pursuant to chapter 41.56 RCW. The scope of responsibilities to be
39 responded to by alternative 911 first response shall fall outside of

1 a general authority Washington law enforcement agency and outside of
2 a general authority Washington fire response.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.56.230 and 2023 c 361 s 14, 2023 c 346 s 1, and
4 2023 c 182 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

5 The following personal information is exempt from public
6 inspection and copying under this chapter:

7 (1) Personal information in any files maintained for students in
8 public schools, patients or clients of public institutions or public
9 health agencies, individuals receiving public safety or health
10 services from a nonlaw enforcement agency, or welfare recipients;

11 (2)(a) Personal information:

12 (i) For a child enrolled in licensed child care in any files
13 maintained by the department of children, youth, and families;

14 (ii) For a child enrolled in a public or nonprofit program
15 serving or pertaining to children, adolescents, or students,
16 including but not limited to early learning or child care services,
17 parks and recreation programs, youth development programs, and after-
18 school programs;

19 (iii) For a student enrolled or previously enrolled in a local
20 education agency, in any records pertaining to the student, including
21 correspondence;

22 (iv) For the family members or guardians of a child who is
23 subject to the exemption under this subsection (2) if the family
24 member or guardian has the same last name as the child or if the
25 family member or guardian resides at the same address as the child
26 and disclosure of the family member's or guardian's information would
27 result in disclosure of the personal information exempted under
28 (a)(i) through (iii) of this subsection; or

29 (v) For substitute caregivers who are licensed or approved to
30 provide overnight care of children by the department of children,
31 youth, and families.

32 (b) Emergency contact information under this subsection (2) may
33 be provided to appropriate authorities and medical personnel for the
34 purpose of treating the individual during an emergency situation;

35 (3) Personal information in files maintained for employees,
36 appointees, or elected officials of any public agency to the extent
37 that disclosure would violate their right to privacy;

38 (4) Information required of any taxpayer in connection with the
39 assessment or collection of any tax if the disclosure of the

1 information to other persons would: (a) Be prohibited to such persons
2 by RCW 84.08.210, 82.32.330, 84.40.020, 84.40.340, or any ordinance
3 authorized under RCW 35.102.145; or (b) violate the taxpayer's right
4 to privacy or result in unfair competitive disadvantage to the
5 taxpayer;

6 (5) Credit card numbers, debit card numbers, electronic check
7 numbers, card expiration dates, or bank or other financial
8 information as defined in RCW 9.35.005 including social security
9 numbers, except when disclosure is expressly required by or governed
10 by other law;

11 (6) Personal and financial information related to a small loan or
12 any system of authorizing a small loan in RCW 31.45.093;

13 (7)(a) Any record used to prove identity, age, residential
14 address, social security number, or other personal information
15 required to apply for a driver's license or identicard.

16 (b) Information provided under RCW 46.20.111 that indicates that
17 an applicant declined to register with the selective service system.

18 (c) Any record pertaining to a vehicle license plate, driver's
19 license, or identicard issued under RCW 46.08.066 that, alone or in
20 combination with any other records, may reveal the identity of an
21 individual, or reveal that an individual is or was, performing an
22 undercover or covert law enforcement, confidential public health
23 work, public assistance fraud, or child support investigative
24 activity. This exemption does not prevent the release of the total
25 number of vehicle license plates, drivers' licenses, or identicards
26 that, under RCW 46.08.066, an agency or department has applied for,
27 been issued, denied, returned, destroyed, lost, and reported for
28 misuse.

29 (d) Any record pertaining to a vessel registration issued under
30 RCW 88.02.330 that, alone or in combination with any other records,
31 may reveal the identity of an individual, or reveal that an
32 individual is or was, performing an undercover or covert law
33 enforcement activity. This exemption does not prevent the release of
34 the total number of vessel registrations that, under RCW 88.02.330,
35 an agency or department has applied for, been issued, denied,
36 returned, destroyed, lost, and reported for misuse.

37 Upon request by the legislature, the department of licensing
38 shall provide a report to the legislature containing all of the
39 information in (c) of this subsection (7) and this subsection (7)(d)
40 that is subject to public disclosure;

1 (8) All information related to individual claim resolution
2 settlement agreements submitted to the board of industrial insurance
3 appeals under RCW 51.04.063, other than final orders from the board
4 of industrial insurance appeals. The board of industrial insurance
5 appeals shall provide to the department of labor and industries
6 copies of all final claim resolution settlement agreements;

7 (9) Voluntarily submitted information contained in a database
8 that is part of or associated with 911 emergency communications
9 systems, or information contained or used in emergency notification
10 systems as provided under RCW 38.52.575 and 38.52.577;

11 (10) Information relating to a future voter, as provided in RCW
12 29A.08.725;

13 (11) All information submitted by a person to the state, either
14 directly or through a state-licensed gambling establishment, or
15 Indian tribes, or tribal enterprises that own gambling operations or
16 facilities with class III gaming compacts, as part of the self-
17 exclusion program established in RCW 9.46.071 or 67.70.040 for people
18 with a gambling problem or gambling disorder;

19 (12) Names, addresses, or other personal information of
20 individuals who participated in the bump-fire stock buy-back program
21 under former RCW 43.43.920; and

22 (13) All personal and financial information concerning a player
23 that is received or maintained by the state lottery or any contracted
24 lottery vendor except the player's name and city or town of
25 residence. Additional information may be released only in accordance
26 with prior written permission from the player.

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