
SENATE BILL 5093

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senators Dhingra, Wellman, Cleveland, Bateman, Pedersen, C. Wilson, Hasegawa, Lias, Nobles, Salomon, Slatter, Stanford, and Valdez

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1 AN ACT Relating to dignity in pregnancy loss; amending RCW
2 68.50.010; adding a new section to chapter 9.02 RCW; and repealing
3 RCW 9.02.050.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 68.50.010 and 2021 c 127 s 7 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The jurisdiction of bodies of all deceased persons who come to
8 their death suddenly when in apparent good health without medical
9 attendance within the (~~thirty-six~~) 36 hours preceding death; or
10 where the circumstances of death indicate death was caused by
11 unnatural or unlawful means; or where death occurs under suspicious
12 circumstances; or where a coroner's autopsy or postmortem or
13 coroner's inquest is to be held; or where death results from unknown
14 or obscure causes, or where death occurs within one year following an
15 accident; or where the death is caused by any violence whatsoever,
16 (~~or where death results from a known or suspected abortion;~~)
17 whether self-induced or otherwise; where death apparently results
18 from drowning, hanging, burns, electrocution, gunshot wounds, stabs
19 or cuts, lightning, starvation, radiation, exposure, alcoholism,
20 narcotics or other addictions, tetanus, strangulations, suffocation
21 or smothering; (~~or where death is due to premature birth or still~~

1 ~~birth;~~) or where death is due to a violent contagious disease or
2 suspected contagious disease which may be a public health hazard; or
3 where death results from alleged rape, carnal knowledge or sodomy,
4 where death occurs in a jail or prison; where a body is found dead or
5 is not claimed by relatives or friends, is hereby vested in the
6 county coroner or medical examiner, which bodies may be removed and
7 placed in the morgue under such rules as are adopted by the coroner
8 or medical examiner with the approval of the county commissioners,
9 having jurisdiction, providing therein how the bodies shall be
10 brought to and cared for at the morgue and held for the proper
11 identification where necessary.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 9.02 RCW
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) Detention facilities and private detention facilities shall
15 report annually to the department of health on the number of people
16 who experience miscarriage, stillbirth, or perinatal loss while
17 confined or incarcerated in such facilities.

18 (2) The department of health shall deliver an annual statewide
19 report to the legislature that details the number of people who
20 experience miscarriage, stillbirth, or perinatal loss while confined
21 or incarcerated in detention facilities and private detention
22 facilities. The first report shall be delivered by December 1, 2026.
23 The report may not include personal identifying information
24 concerning the individuals who experience miscarriage, stillbirth, or
25 perinatal loss.

26 (3) For purposes of this section, "detention facilities" and
27 "private detention facilities" have the same meanings as defined in
28 RCW 70.395.020.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** RCW 9.02.050 (Concealing birth) and 1909 c
30 249 s 200 are each repealed.

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