Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Human Services Committee

HB 1484

Brief Description: Restricting correctional facilities on the grounds of a state hospital.

Sponsors: Representatives Green, Buri, Kelley, Haler, Ormsby, Chase, Hailey, Conway, Darneille and Hudgins.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Prohibits any program, facility, or institution that serves violent offenders and is operated by the Department of Corrections (DOC), directly or under contract with the DOC, from being located or operated on the grounds of a state hospital.

Hearing Date: 1/30/07

Staff: Sonja Hallum (786-7092).

Background:

A state hospital means any hospital, including the Child Study and Treatment Center, that is operated and maintained by the state for the principal purpose of caring for adults and minors whose primary diagnosis involves a mental disorder. Such hospitals provide both inpatient and outpatient care for persons who enter the facility by voluntary commitment or involuntary commitment, or pursuant to court order as part of a criminal proceeding. The hospitals are Western State Hospital, Eastern State Hospital, and the Child Study and Treatment Center.

The Department of Corrections (DOC) is authorized by statute to establish or relocate work release or other community-based facilities if mandatory public notice and hearing requirements are satisfied.

Summary of Bill:

Any program, facility, or institution that serves violent offenders and is operated by the DOC, either directly or under contract with the DOC, is prohibited from being located or operated on the grounds of a state hospital. Such programs, facilities, or institutions include, but are not limited to, work release programs. This prohibition is prospective only and does not apply to a program,

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facility, or institution serving violent offenders that is located or operated on the grounds of a state hospital on the effective date of the bill.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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