
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2937

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Moeller, Morrell, Schual-Berke, and Chase; by request of Department of Social and Health Services)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to vulnerable adult fatality review; and adding a
2 new section to chapter 74.34 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.34 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The department may conduct a vulnerable adult fatality review
7 in the event of a death of a vulnerable adult when the department has
8 reason to believe that the death of the vulnerable adult may be related
9 to the abuse, abandonment, exploitation, or neglect of the vulnerable
10 adult, or may be related to the vulnerable adult's self-neglect, and
11 the vulnerable adult was:

12 (a) Receiving home and community-based services in his or her own
13 home, described under chapters 74.39 and 74.39A RCW within sixty days
14 preceding his or her death; or

15 (b) Living in his or her own home and was the subject of a report
16 under chapter 74.34 RCW received by the department within twelve months
17 preceding his or her death.

18 (2) When conducting a vulnerable adult fatality review of a person
19 who had been receiving hospice care services before the person's death,

1 the review shall provide particular consideration to the similarities
2 between the signs and symptoms of abuse and those of many patients
3 receiving hospice care services.

4 (3) All files, reports, records, communications, and working papers
5 used or developed for purposes of a fatality review are confidential
6 and not subject to disclosure pursuant to RCW 74.34.095.

7 (4) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

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