FINAL BILL REPORT SSB 5252

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Addressing correctional facility policies regarding medication management.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Brandland, Hargrove and Shin).

Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections House Committee on Human Services

Background: The State Board of Pharmacy (Board) regulates the practice of pharmacy in the state of Washington. The Board establishes qualifications for licensure of pharmacists and promulgates rules for dispensing and distributing drugs. The Board also monitors trends and provides education in preventing the misuse of drugs.

Summary: The Board is prohibited from regulating or establishing standards for a jail that does not operate a pharmacy or correctional pharmacy.

A jail is authorized to provide for the delivery and administration of medications and medication assistance for inmates by trained personnel under certain conditions, including provision for training, consultation with a licensed pharmacist, and adoption of a policy for controlling and storing medications. Inmates must not be allowed to dispense medications.

The Department of Health must annually review the medication practices of five jails which allow medications to be delivered to inmates by non-pharmacist jail personnel.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate 48 0

House 97 0 (House amended) Senate 47 0 (Senate concurred)

Effective: July 26, 2009

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