

**SB 5446 - DIGEST**

Prohibits the department of health from requiring a certificate of need for the addition of beds to alleviate the need to board psychiatric patients in emergency departments.

Exempts a hospital licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW from certificate of need requirements for the addition of new psychiatric beds.

Exempts a hospital licensed under chapter 71.12 RCW from certificate of need requirements for the one-time addition of up to thirty new psychiatric beds.