S-0526.1

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**SENATE BILL 5211**

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**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Palumbo, Rolfes, Hunt, and Zeiger

AN ACT Relating to prohibiting the use of live animals to practice invasive medical procedures in paramedic training programs; amending RCW 16.52.180; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  The legislature finds one or more paramedic training courses in Washington simulate the stress experienced by paramedics performing invasive medical procedures on patients in the field by using live pigs to practice creating emergency airways. Alternatively, human-based medical training methods, such as simulators, replicate human anatomy and allow for repetitive practice and data collection. The legislature also finds that medical simulators may be an equally effective training method to using live tissue models given advances in simulator technology. One Canadian armed forces study of medical technicians found no difference in performance between medics trained on simulators versus live tissue models. The legislature intends to encourage the use of inanimate human-based training methods and prohibit the use of live animals to practice invasive medical procedures in paramedic training programs.

**Sec.**  RCW 16.52.180 and 1994 c 261 s 12 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) No part of this chapter shall be deemed to interfere with any of the laws of this state known as the "game laws," nor be deemed to interfere with the right to destroy any venomous reptile or any known as dangerous to life, limb or property, or to interfere with the right to kill animals to be used for food or with any properly conducted scientific experiments or investigations, which experiments or investigations shall be performed only under the authority of the faculty of some regularly incorporated college or university of the state of Washington or a research facility registered with the United States department of agriculture and regulated by 7 U.S.C. Sec. 2131 et seq.

(2)(a) By July 1, 2022, all paramedic training programs in the state of Washington training individuals in the medical treatment of persons may:

(i) Only use human-based training methods; and

(ii) Not use pigs or other live animals.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection:

(i) "Human-based training methods" means the use of systems and devices, including simulators, partial task trainers, or human cadavers, but not animals.

(ii) "Partial task trainers" means training aids that allow individuals to learn or practice specific medical procedures.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  The sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, from the general fund to the Michael K. Copass paramedic training program at Harborview medical center to develop and produce simulator models for the use of paramedic trainees and practicing paramedics in their initial and ongoing training.

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