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HOUSE BILL 2889

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representatives McMahan, Benton, Ballasiotes, Costa, Sheahan, Talcott, D. Sommers, McMorris, Thompson, Lambert, Mastin, Carrell, Boldt, Hargrove, Mulliken, Johnson, Pelesky, Basich, B. Thomas, Sterk, Fuhrman, Koster, Chappell, Silver, Dyer, Stevens, Blanton, Huff, Campbell and Sheldon

Read first time 01/24/96. Referred to Committee on Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to medical services for inmates sentenced to death;  
2 and adding a new section to chapter 72.10 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 72.10 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) For an inmate who is under a sentence of death or whose death  
7 sentence is under appellate review, the department may provide basic  
8 medical services, including administration of medications necessary for  
9 pain relief, but shall not use public funds to provide extraordinary,  
10 life-saving medical procedures.

11 (2) For purposes of this section, the term "extraordinary, life-  
12 saving medical procedure" means a medical or surgical intervention to  
13 sustain, restore, or replace a vital function of the body, where  
14 failure to perform the intervention would naturally and proximately  
15 result in the person's death. This term includes such measures as  
16 open-heart surgery, organ transplants, and dialysis.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If any provision of this act or its  
18 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the

1 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
2 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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