
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1730

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Schual-Berke, Skinner, Clements, Pennington, Kagi, Linville, Cody, Campbell, Lovick, Cox, Ruderman, Ballasiotes, O'Brien, Hunt, Edwards, Dickerson, Grant, Darneille and Keiser)

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the reporting of specified injuries by trauma
2 health care providers; and adding a new section to chapter 18.130 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 18.130 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Any health care practitioner listed under RCW 18.130.040,
7 including personnel of a hospital, clinic, or other health care
8 facility who knowingly treats any person suffering from a gunshot
9 wound, or who receives a request for such treatment, shall report
10 within a reasonable time the existence of the gunshot wound to an
11 appropriate law enforcement agency. However, no report is necessary if
12 a law enforcement officer is present with the victim while treatment is
13 being administered. The report may be made orally or otherwise.

14 (2) A hospital, clinic, or other health care facility may designate
15 an individual to make the report. The report shall be made as soon as
16 possible, but no later than the time of the victim's release from the
17 facility.

18 (3) A person required to make a report or who participates in
19 judicial proceedings resulting from the report, acting in good faith,

1 is immune from any civil liability which might otherwise result from
2 these actions. In all such civil proceedings, good faith shall be a
3 rebuttable presumption.

4 (4) The confidential or privileged nature of the communication
5 between the health care practitioner and the person being treated as a
6 patient pursuant to chapter 70.02 RCW is abrogated to the extent of
7 this reporting and does not constitute grounds for failure to report or
8 for the exclusion of evidence resulting from a report made under this
9 section.

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