SENATE BILL 5903

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Winsley, Franklin, Costa and Thibaudeau

Read first time 02/07/2001. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing the license surcharge for the 2 impaired physician program; and amending RCW 18.71.310.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.71.310 and 1998 c 132 s 4 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

6 (1) The commission shall enter into a contract with the entity to 7 implement an impaired physician program. The commission may enter into 8 a contract with the entity for up to six years in length. The impaired 9 physician program may include any or all of the following:

(a) Entering into relationships supportive of the impaired
physician program with professionals who provide either evaluation or
treatment services, or both;

(b) Receiving and assessing reports of suspected impairment fromany source;

15 (c) Intervening in cases of verified impairment, or in cases where 16 there is reasonable cause to suspect impairment;

(d) Upon reasonable cause, referring suspected or verified impairedphysicians for evaluation or treatment;

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(e) Monitoring the treatment and rehabilitation of impaired
physicians including those ordered by the commission;

3 (f) Providing monitoring and continuing treatment and 4 rehabilitative support of physicians;

5 (g) Performing such other activities as agreed upon by the 6 commission and the entity; and

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(h) Providing prevention and education services.

(2) A contract entered into under subsection (1) of this section 8 9 shall be financed by a surcharge of not less than twenty-five and not more than thirty-five dollars per year on each license renewal or 10 issuance of a new license to be collected by the department of health 11 from every physician and surgeon licensed under this chapter in 12 addition to other license fees. These moneys shall be placed in the 13 14 impaired physician account to be used solely for the implementation of 15 the impaired physician program.

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