

6162-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Brandland, Pflug and Oke)

Brief Description: Authorizing disclosure of health care information for law enforcement purposes without patient's consent.

**SB 6162-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares that the purpose of this act is to aid law enforcement authorities in combating crime through the rapid identification of all persons who require medical treatment as a result of a criminal act and to assist in the rapid identification of human remains.

Authorizes disclosure to federal, state, or local law enforcement authorities, upon receipt of a written or oral request, in all cases in which the patient is being treated for a bullet wound, gunshot wound, powder burn, or other injury arising from or caused by the discharge of a firearm, or an injury caused by a knife, ice pick, or any other sharp or pointed instrument which appears to have been intentionally inflicted upon a person, or any other injury, including blunt force injury, that the health care provider reasonably believes resulted from a criminal act.

Provides that the missing person's dentist or dentists shall provide diagnostic quality copies of the missing person's dental records or original dental records to the sheriff, chief of police, county coroner or county medical examiner, or other law enforcement authority, when presented with the written consent from the missing person's family or next of kin or with a statement from the sheriff, chief of police, county coroner or county medical examiner, or other law enforcement authority that the missing person's family or next of kin could not be located in the exercise of due diligence or that the missing person's family or next of kin refuses to consent to the release of the missing person's dental records and there is reason to believe that the missing person's family or next of kin may have been involved in the missing person's disappearance.