

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1247**

Chapter 19, Laws of 2011

62nd Legislature  
2011 Regular Session

SECURE COMMUNITY TRANSITION FACILITIES--STAFFING

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 11, 2011

Passed by the House March 1, 2011  
Yeas 97 Nays 1

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 25, 2011  
Yeas 46 Nays 2

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Approved April 11, 2011, 2:23 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1247** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

April 11, 2011

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1247**

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Passed Legislature - 2011 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2011 Regular Session**

**By** House Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Hunter, Darneille, and Kenney; by request of Department of Social and Health Services)

READ FIRST TIME 01/21/11.

1       AN ACT Relating to the staffing of secure community transition  
2 facilities; amending RCW 71.09.300; and declaring an emergency.

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

4       **Sec. 1.** RCW 71.09.300 and 2003 c 216 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6       Secure community transition facilities shall meet the following  
7 minimum staffing requirements:

8       ~~(1)((a) At any time the census of a facility that accepts its~~  
9 ~~first resident before July 1, 2003, is six or fewer residents, the~~  
10 ~~facility shall maintain a minimum staffing ratio of one staff per three~~  
11 ~~residents during normal waking hours and one awake staff per four~~  
12 ~~residents during normal sleeping hours. In no case shall the staffing~~  
13 ~~ratio permit less than two staff per housing unit.~~

14       ~~(b) At any time the census of a facility that accepts its first~~  
15 ~~resident on or after July 1, 2003, is six or fewer residents, the~~  
16 ~~facility shall maintain a minimum staffing ratio of one staff per~~  
17 ~~resident during normal waking hours and two awake staff per three~~  
18 ~~residents during normal sleeping hours. In no case shall the staffing~~  
19 ~~ratio permit less than two staff per housing unit.~~

1       ~~(2))~~ At any time the census of a facility is six or fewer  
2 residents, all staff shall be classified as residential rehabilitation  
3 counselor II or have a classification that indicates an equivalent or  
4 higher level of skill, experience, and training.

5       ~~((3) Before being assigned to a facility, all staff shall have~~  
6 ~~training in sex offender issues, self-defense, and crisis de-escalation~~  
7 ~~skills in addition to departmental orientation and, as appropriate,~~  
8 ~~management training. All staff with resident treatment or care duties~~  
9 ~~must participate in ongoing in-service training.~~

10       (4)) (2)(a) For the secure transition facility located on McNeil  
11 Island, the direct care staffing level shall be at least three  
12 qualified, trained staff as described in subsection (3) of this  
13 section, unless there are no residents housed at the facility, in which  
14 case the facility need not staff to this ratio.

15       (b) For the secure community transition facility located in  
16 Seattle, the direct care staffing level shall be at least two  
17 qualified, trained staff as described in subsection (3) of this  
18 section, unless there are no residents housed at the facility, in which  
19 case the facility need not staff to this ratio.

20       (3) Before being assigned to a facility, all staff must have  
21 received training in sex offender issues, self-defense, and crisis  
22 de-escalation skills in addition to departmental orientation and, as  
23 appropriate, management training. All staff with resident treatment or  
24 care duties must participate in ongoing in-service training.

25       (4) All staff must pass a departmental background check and the  
26 check is not subject to the limitations in chapter 9.96A RCW. A person  
27 who has been convicted of a felony, or any sex offense, may not be  
28 employed at the secure community transition facility or be approved as  
29 an escort for a resident of the facility.

30       NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
31 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
32 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
33 immediately.

Passed by the House March 1, 2011.

Passed by the Senate March 25, 2011.

Approved by the Governor April 11, 2011.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 11, 2011.