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HOUSE BILL 1779

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Van De Wege, Johnson, Harris, Jinkins, and Tharinger

Read first time 01/28/15. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring specialized training for persons  
2 conducting victim interviews as part of the disciplinary process for  
3 a health professional alleged to have committed sexual misconduct;  
4 and amending RCW 18.130.062.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.130.062 and 2008 c 134 s 5 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) With regard to complaints that only allege that a license  
9 holder has committed an act or acts of unprofessional conduct  
10 involving sexual misconduct, the secretary shall serve as the sole  
11 disciplining authority in every aspect of the disciplinary process,  
12 including initiating investigations, investigating, determining the  
13 disposition of the complaint, holding hearings, preparing findings of  
14 fact, issuing orders or dismissals of charges as provided in RCW  
15 18.130.110, entering into stipulations permitted by RCW 18.130.172,  
16 or issuing summary suspensions under RCW 18.130.135. The board or  
17 commission shall review all cases and only refer to the secretary  
18 sexual misconduct cases that do not involve clinical expertise or  
19 standard of care issues.

20 (2) Beginning July 1, 2016, for all complaints alleging an act or  
21 acts of unprofessional conduct involving sexual misconduct,

1 regardless of whether the secretary or a board or commission is the  
2 disciplining authority, all victim interviews conducted as part of an  
3 investigation must be conducted by a person who has successfully  
4 completed a training program on interviewing victims of sexual  
5 misconduct in a manner that minimizes the negative impacts on the  
6 victims. The training program may be provided by the disciplining  
7 authority, the department, or an outside entity. When determining the  
8 type of training that is appropriate to comply with this subsection,  
9 the disciplining authority shall consult with at least one statewide  
10 organization that provides information, training, and expertise to  
11 persons and entities who support victims, family and friends, the  
12 general public, and other persons whose lives have been affected by  
13 sexual assault.

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