(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Finds that RCW 10.77.090 contains laws relating to three discrete subjects. Therefore, one purpose of this act is to reorganize some of those laws by creating new sections in the Revised Code of Washington that clarify and identify these discrete subjects.

Finds that there are disproportionate numbers of individuals with mental illness in jail. The needs of individuals with mental illness and the public safety needs of society at large are better served when individuals with mental illness are provided an opportunity to obtain treatment and support.

Provides that when a police officer has reasonable cause to believe that the individual has committed acts constituting a nonfelony crime that is not a serious offense as identified in RCW 10.77.092 and the individual is known by history or consultation with the regional support network to suffer from a mental disorder, the arresting officer may: (1) Take the individual to a crisis stabilization unit;

- (2) Refer the individual to a mental health professional for evaluation for initial detention and proceeding under chapter 71.05 RCW; or
- (3) Release the individual upon agreement to voluntary participation in outpatient treatment.

Repeals RCW 10.77.090.