

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5211

As of February 26, 2019

Title: An act relating to prohibiting the use of live animals to practice invasive medical procedures in paramedic training programs.

Brief Description: Prohibiting the use of live animals to practice invasive medical procedures in paramedic training programs.

Sponsors: Senators Palumbo, Rolfes, Hunt and Zeiger.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Health & Long Term Care: 2/22/19 [DP-WM, DNP, w/oRec].
Ways & Means: 2/25/19.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires all paramedic training programs to use only human-based training methods by July 1, 2022.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG TERM CARE

Majority Report: Do pass and be referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

Signed by Senators Cleveland, Chair; Randall, Vice Chair; Dhingra, Frockt, Keiser and Rivers.

Minority Report: Do not pass.

Signed by Senators Becker and Van De Wege.

Minority Report: That it be referred without recommendation.

Signed by Senators O'Ban, Ranking Member; Bailey and Conway.

Staff: Greg Attanasio (786-7410)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

Staff: Amanda Cecil (786-7460)

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Background: Paramedics provide pre-hospital medical services including patient assessment, advanced cardiac life support with manual defibrillation, placement of multi lumen airways, administration of certain drugs, and other trauma related medical services. To receive paramedic certification from the Department of Health (DOH), an applicant must successfully complete a DOH approved paramedic training course, pass a DOH approved examination, and provide proof of association with an emergency medical services organization.

Summary of Bill: By July 1, 2022, all paramedic training programs training individuals in the medical treatment of humans must only use human-based training methods and may not use pigs or other lives animals. Human-based training includes the use of simulators or human cadavers.

The sum of \$200,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, from the general fund to the Michael K. Copass Paramedic Training Program at Harborview Medical Center to develop and produce simulator models for paramedic trainees and practicing paramedics in their initial and ongoing training.

Appropriation: The bill contains an appropriation totaling \$200,000 from the general fund.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony (Health & Long Term Care): PRO: Technology now allows for the replication of human anatomy to eliminate the need to live animals for training. The University of Washington is currently working on a simulator model to phase out the use of live animals.

Persons Testifying (Health & Long Term Care): PRO: Richard Hall, Washington Alliance for Humane Legislation; Ian Goodhew, UW Medicine/Harborview.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying (Health & Long Term Care): No one.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony (Ways & Means): PRO: The Harborview Medical Center paramedic training program is the only one that uses live animals to teach cricothyrotomy. A simulator is being developed with a Department of Defense grant. The funding in this bill will allow the simulators to be deployed statewide for paramedic training.

Persons Testifying (Ways & Means): PRO: Ian Goodhew, University of Washington Medicine/Harborview.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying (Ways & Means): No one.