
HOUSE BILL 2088

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representatives Orwall, Reed, Ormsby, Ramel, Macri, Cheney, Lekanoff, Riccelli, Wylie, and Reeves; by request of Health Care Authority

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1 AN ACT Relating to extending liability protections for responders
2 dispatched from mobile rapid response crisis teams and community-
3 based crisis teams; and amending RCW 71.24.907.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 71.24.907 and 2023 c 454 s 13 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) No act or omission related to the dispatching decisions of
8 any crisis call center staff or designated 988 contact hub staff with
9 endorsed mobile rapid response crisis team and community-based crisis
10 team dispatching responsibilities done or omitted in good faith
11 within the scope of the individual's employment responsibilities with
12 the crisis call center or designated 988 contact hub and in
13 accordance with dispatching procedures adopted both by the behavioral
14 health administrative services organization and the crisis call
15 center or the designated 988 contact hub and approved by the
16 authority shall impose liability upon:

17 (a) The clinical staff of the crisis call center or designated
18 988 contact hub or their clinical supervisors;

19 (b) The crisis call center or designated 988 contact hub or its
20 officers, staff, or employees;

1 (c) Any member of a mobile rapid response crisis team or
2 community-based crisis team endorsed under RCW 71.24.903;

3 (d) The certified public safety telecommunicator or the certified
4 public safety telecommunicator's supervisor; or

5 (e) The public safety answering point or its officers, staff, or
6 employees.

7 (2) No act or omission in the provision of crisis stabilization
8 services, professional on-site community-based intervention,
9 outreach, de-escalation, stabilization, resource connection, or
10 follow-up support, and delivered under the clinical supervision of a
11 mental health professional or an approved medical program director or
12 their delegate, to a person who is experiencing a behavioral health
13 crisis, shall impose liability upon:

14 (a) Any staff of an endorsed or nonendorsed mobile rapid response
15 crisis team or community-based crisis team, including teams operated
16 by tribes, or staff of a crisis stabilization unit or a 23-hour
17 crisis relief center, including facilities operated by tribes;

18 (b) Any officer of a public, private, or tribal agency, the
19 superintendent, any professional person in charge or their
20 professional designee, or any attending staff of any such agency; or

21 (c) Any federal, tribal, state, county, city, other local
22 governmental unit, or contracted behavioral health agency, or
23 employees of such units or agencies.

24 (3) This section shall apply to any act or omission by any person
25 or entity listed in subsection (2) of this section involved in the
26 transport of patients to behavioral health services, facilities
27 providing crisis stabilization services, or other needed crisis
28 services.

29 (4) This section shall not apply to any act or omission which
30 constitutes either gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

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