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**SENATE BILL 5070**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Nobles, Dhingra, Frame, Hasegawa, Nguyen, and C. Wilson

Prefiled 12/20/22. Read first time 01/09/23. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to victims of nonfatal strangulation; amending  
2 RCW 7.68.803; providing an effective date; and declaring an  
3 emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 7.68.803 and 2021 c 269 s 3 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) No costs incurred by a hospital or other emergency medical  
8 facility for the examination of the victim of domestic violence  
9 assault involving nonfatal strangulation, when such examination is  
10 performed for the purposes of gathering evidence for possible  
11 prosecution, shall be billed or charged directly or indirectly to the  
12 victim of such assault. Such costs shall be paid by the state  
13 pursuant to this chapter.

14 (2) The department must notify the office of financial management  
15 and the fiscal committees of the legislature if it projects that the  
16 cost of services provided under this section exceeds the amount of  
17 funding provided by the legislature solely for the purposes of this  
18 section.

19 ~~((3) No later than October 1, 2022, the department shall report~~  
20 ~~to the legislature the following information for fiscal year 2022:~~

1       ~~(a) The number, type, and amount of claims received by victims of~~  
2 ~~suspected nonfatal strangulation, with a subtotal of claims that also~~  
3 ~~involved sexual assault;~~

4       ~~(b) The number, type, and amount of claims paid for victims of~~  
5 ~~suspected nonfatal strangulation, with a subtotal of claims that also~~  
6 ~~involved sexual assault; and~~

7       ~~(c) The number of police reports filed by victims of suspected~~  
8 ~~nonfatal strangulation who received services under this section.~~

9       ~~(4) This section expires June 30, 2023.)~~

10       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 2.**   This act is necessary for the immediate  
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of  
12 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
13 effect June 30, 2023.

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