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HOUSE BILL 2647

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1992 Regular Session

By Representatives D. Sommers, Franklin, Winsley, Leonard, Moyer, Padden, Mielke, Tate and Wang

Read first time 01/23/92.                      Referred to Committee on Human Services/Appropriations.

1            AN ACT Relating to state employee safety at eastern and western  
2 state hospitals; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**            The department of labor and industries  
5 shall conduct a study to investigate the problems and causes associated  
6 with the increasing number of assaults on state employees who work at  
7 eastern and western state hospitals. The study will include, but not  
8 be limited to, the possible ameliorative actions of increased staffing  
9 levels, increased employee training, physical plant improvements,  
10 stronger assault statutes, or other criminal justice initiatives. In  
11 their study the department shall consult with state employees and their  
12 representatives; department of social and health services and hospital  
13 management; advocates of the mentally ill; officials of the state's  
14 criminal justice system, including local law enforcement and

1 prosecutors; and others with an interest in this issue. The department  
2 shall report back to the legislature regarding its findings and  
3 recommendations by December 31, 1993.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of two hundred fifty thousand  
5 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
6 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the  
7 department of labor and industries for the purpose of this act.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any provision of this act or its  
9 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
10 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
11 persons or circumstances is not affected.