

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6398**

Chapter 27, Laws of 1996

54th Legislature  
1996 Regular Session

SPECIAL COMMITMENT CENTER--EMPLOYEE BACKGROUND CHECKS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/6/96

Passed by the Senate February 6, 1996  
YEAS 47 NAYS 0

JOEL PRITCHARD

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House February 26, 1996  
YEAS 95 NAYS 0

CLYDE BALLARD

**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved March 7, 1996

CERTIFICATE

I, Marty Brown, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6398** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

MARTY BROWN

**Secretary**

FILED

March 7, 1996 - 10:17 a.m.

MIKE LOWRY

**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6398**

---

Passed Legislature - 1996 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Long and Oke; by request of Department of Social and Health Services)

Read first time 01/31/96.

1            AN ACT Relating to background checks of employees at the special  
2            commitment center; and adding a new section to chapter 71.09 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71.09 RCW  
5            to read as follows:

6            (1) The safety and security needs of the secure facility operated  
7            by the department of social and health services pursuant to RCW  
8            71.09.060(1) make it vital that employees working in the facility meet  
9            necessary character, suitability, and competency qualifications. The  
10           secretary shall require a record check through the Washington state  
11           patrol criminal identification system under chapter 10.97 RCW and  
12           through the federal bureau of investigation. The record check must  
13           include a fingerprint check using a complete Washington state criminal  
14           identification fingerprint card. The criminal history record checks  
15           shall be at the expense of the department. The secretary shall use the  
16           information only in making the initial employment or engagement  
17           decision, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section.  
18           Further dissemination or use of the record is prohibited.

1       (2) This section applies to all current employees hired prior to  
2 the effective date of this act who have not previously submitted to a  
3 department of social and health services criminal history records  
4 check. The secretary shall use the information only in determining  
5 whether the current employee meets the necessary character,  
6 suitability, and competency requirements for employment or engagement.

Passed the Senate February 6, 1996.

Passed the House February 26, 1996.

Approved by the Governor March 7, 1996.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 7, 1996.