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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6554**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Long, Hargrove, Costa and Winsley)

Read first time 02/03/2000.

1 AN ACT Relating to less restrictive alternative mental health  
2 commitments; and amending RCW 71.05.285.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 71.05.285 and 1997 c 112 s 23 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 ((~~For the purposes of continued~~)) In determining whether an  
7 inpatient or less restrictive alternative commitment under the process  
8 provided in RCW 71.05.280 and 71.05.320(2) is appropriate, ((~~in~~  
9 ~~determining whether or not the person is gravely disabled,~~)) great  
10 weight shall be given to evidence of a prior history or pattern of  
11 decompensation and discontinuation of treatment resulting in: (1)  
12 Repeated hospitalizations; or (2) repeated peace officer interventions  
13 resulting in juvenile offenses, criminal charges, diversion programs,  
14 or jail admissions. Such evidence may be used to provide a factual  
15 basis for concluding that the individual would not receive, if  
16 released, such care as is essential for his or her health or safety.

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