
Health Care Committee

HB 1837

Brief Description: Authorizing the establishment of emergency medical and health clinic services under Title 52 RCW.

Sponsors: Representatives Linville, Cody, Haigh, Schual-Berke, Santos, Morrell, Veloria and Chase.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes fire protection districts to participate in the operation and maintenance of health clinics.

Hearing Date: 2/19/03

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

Point Roberts, Washington is bounded on three sides by water and shares a common border with Canada. While part of Whatcom County, residents must drive through two international borders to seek medical attention in the county's largest city, Bellingham. A group of local citizens has attempted to open a health clinic in conjunction with the local fire protection district to serve some of the health needs of area residents. The State Auditor's Office has indicated that the fire protection district does not have the statutory authority to assist with the operation of a health clinic.

Summary of Bill:

Authorizes fire protection districts to participate in the operation and maintenance of health clinics.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.