
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5987

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Regala, Hargrove, and Shin; by request of Department of Corrections)

READ FIRST TIME 02/25/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to department of corrections training; amending RCW
2 43.101.220; adding a new section to chapter 43.10 RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The intent of the legislature is that all
6 corrections personnel employed by the Washington department of
7 corrections are prepared to carry out the demands of their position
8 that they are likely to encounter during their daily duties. The
9 protection of the public, department employees, and inmates are a
10 primary reason to ensure that everyone is adequately trained and
11 knowledgeable in routine and emergency procedures.

12 To best carry out this mission it is necessary for the Washington
13 state department of corrections to have the authority, discretion, and
14 ability to design and conduct mandatory training that best meets the
15 needs of its changing offender population.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.101.220 and 2007 c 382 s 1 are each amended to read
17 as follows:

18 (1) The corrections personnel of the state and all counties and

1 municipal corporations initially employed on or after January 1, 1982,
2 shall engage in basic corrections training which complies with
3 standards adopted by the commission. The training shall be
4 successfully completed during the first six months of employment of the
5 personnel, unless otherwise extended or waived by the commission, and
6 shall be requisite to the continuation of employment.

7 (2) The commission shall provide the training required in this
8 section, together with facilities, supplies, materials, and the room
9 and board for noncommuting attendees.

10 (3)(a) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section do not apply to the
11 Washington state department of corrections prisons division. The
12 Washington state department of corrections is responsible for
13 identifying training standards, designing curricula and programs, and
14 providing the training for those corrections personnel employed by it.
15 In doing so, the secretary of the department of corrections shall
16 consult with staff development experts and correctional professionals
17 both inside and outside of the agency, to include soliciting input from
18 labor organizations.

19 (b) The commission and the department of corrections share the
20 responsibility of developing and defining training standards and
21 providing training for community corrections officers employed within
22 the community corrections division of the department of corrections.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 43.10 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 (1) All new corrections personnel employed by the Washington state
26 department of corrections shall, within a period to be determined by
27 the secretary of the department of corrections, successfully complete
28 core training requirements prescribed or obtain a waiver or extension
29 of the core training requirements from the secretary.

30 (2) Within a period to be determined by the secretary of the
31 Washington state department of corrections after completion of the core
32 training requirements of this section, corrections personnel employed
33 by the department shall successfully complete all remaining
34 requirements for career level certification prescribed by the secretary
35 applicable to their position or rank, or obtain a waiver or extension
36 of the career level training requirements from the secretary.

1 (3) The secretary of the department of corrections is responsible
2 for assuring that the training needs of the corrections personnel are
3 met by the department's training program. Once a year, the secretary
4 is responsible for conducting an assessment of the training programs
5 for the corrections personnel employed by the department.

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