
SENATE BILL 6600

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators O'Ban, Becker, Rivers, Walsh, Zeiger, and Ericksen

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring state hospitals to undergo the same
2 licensure and inspection by the department of health as private
3 psychiatric hospitals; reenacting and amending RCW 71.12.455; and
4 adding a new section to chapter 71.12 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71.12
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) Effective June 30, 2021, all state hospitals in Washington
9 must be licensed under this chapter and subject to oversight and
10 inspection by the department.

11 (2) A state hospital program that is certified by the federal
12 medicare program, or the joint commission on accreditation of health
13 care organizations or other national accreditation agency, is not
14 subject to a state licensure survey if:

15 (a) The department determines that the applicable survey
16 standards of the accreditation program are substantially equivalent
17 to those required by this chapter;

18 (b) An on-site survey has been conducted for the purposes of
19 certification or accreditation during the previous twenty-four
20 months; and

1 (c) The department receives directly from the certifying or
2 accrediting entity or from the licensee applicant copies of the
3 initial and subsequent survey reports and other relevant reports or
4 findings that indicate compliance with licensure requirements.

5 **Sec. 2.** RCW 71.12.455 and 2017 c 263 s 2 are each reenacted and
6 amended to read as follows:

7 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
8 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

9 (1) "Department" means the department of health.

10 (2) "Establishment" and "institution" mean:

11 (a) Every private ~~((~~o~~))~~, county ~~((~~o~~))~~, municipal, or state
12 hospital, including a public hospital district(~~(s)~~), sanitarium,
13 home, or other place receiving or caring for any person with mental
14 illness, (~~(mentally incompetent))~~ person with mental incompetence, or
15 (~~(chemically dependent))~~ person with a substance abuse disorder; and

16 (b) Beginning January 1, 2019, ~~((~~facilities~~))~~ every facility
17 providing pediatric transitional care services.

18 (3) "Pediatric transitional care services" means short-term,
19 temporary, health and comfort services for drug exposed infants
20 according to the requirements of this chapter and provided in an
21 establishment licensed by the department of health.

22 (4) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of health.

23 (5) "Trained caregiver" means a noncredentialed, unlicensed
24 person trained by the establishment providing pediatric transitional
25 care services to provide hands-on care to drug exposed infants.
26 Caregivers may not provide medical care to infants and may only work
27 under the supervision of an appropriate health care professional.

28 (6) "State hospital" means any hospital operated and maintained
29 by the state of Washington for the care of any person with mental
30 illness, person with mental incompetency, or person with a substance
31 abuse disorder.

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