
HOUSE BILL 2357

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Representatives Dent, Gregerson, Thomas, and Ormsby; by request of Military Department

Prefiled 01/09/26. Read first time 01/12/26. Referred to Committee on Technology, Economic Development, & Veterans.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington division of civil air patrol as
2 part of the Washington military department; and adding a new chapter
3 to Title 38 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) There is hereby established a
6 Washington division of civil air patrol which shall consist of
7 volunteer members who are volunteer civilian members of the
8 Washington wing of the federally chartered civil air patrol.

9 (2) The commanding officer of the Washington wing of the
10 federally chartered civil air patrol shall be the head of the
11 Washington division of civil air patrol. In the event of a vacancy in
12 the office of commanding officer, or in the event the commanding
13 officer shall decline or is unable to serve as head of the division,
14 the civil air patrol shall designate another officer thereof to be
15 the acting commanding officer. Any such acting head of the division
16 shall serve during any interim in which the office of commanding
17 officer remains vacant or in which the declination or inability of
18 the commanding officer to serve remains in effect and any such acting
19 head shall have and exercise all of the rights, powers, and
20 authority, and shall perform all of the functions and duties of the
21 head of the division.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Washington division of civil air
2 patrol will be available to serve at the call of the governor when
3 ordered to active state service. The Washington division of civil air
4 patrol shall consist of commissioned and warrant officers, enlisted
5 persons, and cadets under the provisions of this title.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The Washington division of civil air
7 patrol is hereby authorized to cooperate with any agency, authority,
8 department or political subdivision of the state of Washington, or
9 any federally recognized tribe within the state of Washington, upon
10 request thereby, in the provision of cadet training, communications,
11 disaster relief, cyber security missions, and search and rescue
12 missions or assistance, or in the performance of other related
13 functions which are within the scope of activity of the federally
14 chartered civil air patrol.

15 (2) The head of the Washington division of civil air patrol may
16 enter into agreements with any agency, authority, department or
17 political subdivision of the state, or federally recognized tribe
18 within the state, for the performance, in cooperation therewith, of
19 any of the functions specified in subsection (1) of this section and
20 may accept from any such agency, authority, department or political
21 subdivision, or federally recognized tribe reimbursement for expenses
22 incurred by the division in connection with the performance of such
23 functions.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The director of the Washington division of
25 civil air patrol may employ such personnel and may make such
26 expenditures within the appropriation therefor, or from other funds
27 made available for purposes of agency operations, as may be necessary
28 to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Nothing in this act shall operate or be
30 construed in any manner so as to change or affect the operation of
31 the Washington wing of the federally chartered civil air patrol or to
32 change or affect any existing rights, powers, duties, or functions
33 thereof or to prohibit or limit cooperation thereby with the United
34 States government or with any agency, authority, or department
35 thereof.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act
2 constitute a new chapter in Title 38 RCW.

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