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SENATE BILL 5873

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State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Senators C. Wilson, Hasegawa, Nobles, Saldaña, and Wellman

Prefiled 12/11/25. Read first time 01/12/26. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to escorted leaves of absence for incarcerated  
2 individuals; and amending RCW 72.01.370 and 72.01.380.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 72.01.370 and 1992 c 7 s 53 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 The superintendent of any state correctional facility may,  
7 subject to the approval of the secretary and under RCW 72.01.375,  
8 grant escorted leaves of absence to ~~((inmates))~~ incarcerated  
9 individuals confined in such institutions to:

10 (1) ~~((Go))~~ Attend the funeral or go to the bedside of a seriously  
11 ill family member, including the ~~((inmate's wife, husband, child,~~  
12 ~~mother or father, or other member of the inmate's immediate family~~  
13 ~~who is seriously ill;~~

14 ~~(2) Attend the funeral of a member of the inmate's immediate~~  
15 ~~family listed in subsection (1) of this section))~~ incarcerated  
16 individual's children, stepchildren, grandchildren, great  
17 grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents, great  
18 grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and a person legally married  
19 to or in a state registered domestic partnership with an incarcerated  
20 individual. "Immediate family" includes the immediate family of an  
21 incarcerated individual who was adopted as a child or an adult, but

1 does not include an incarcerated individual adopted by another  
2 incarcerated individual or the immediate family of the adopted or  
3 adopting individual;

4 ~~((3))~~ (2) Participate in athletic contests;

5 ~~((4))~~ (3) Perform work in connection with the industrial,  
6 educational, or agricultural programs of the department;

7 ~~((5))~~ (4) Receive necessary medical or dental care which is not  
8 available in the institution; ~~(and~~

9 ~~(6))~~ (5) Participate as a volunteer in community service work  
10 projects which are approved by the superintendent, but only  
11 ~~((inmates))~~ incarcerated individuals who are nonviolent offenders may  
12 participate in these projects. Such community service work projects  
13 shall only be instigated at the request of a local community; and

14 (6) Participate in reentry programs to receive mentorship and  
15 prepare incarcerated individuals for a successful reentry.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 72.01.380 and 2012 c 117 s 453 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 The secretary is authorized to make rules and regulations  
19 providing for the conditions under which ~~((inmates))~~ incarcerated  
20 individuals will be granted leaves of absence, and providing for  
21 safeguards to prevent escapes while on leave of absence: PROVIDED,  
22 That leaves of absence granted to ~~((inmates))~~ incarcerated  
23 individuals under RCW 72.01.370 shall not allow or permit any  
24 ~~((inmate))~~ incarcerated individual to go beyond the boundaries of  
25 this state. The secretary shall also make rules and regulations  
26 requiring the reimbursement of the state from the ~~((inmate))~~  
27 incarcerated individual granted leave of absence, or his or her  
28 family, for the actual costs incurred arising from any leave of  
29 absence granted under the authority of RCW 72.01.370 ~~((, subsections))~~

30 (1) ~~(and (2))~~: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no state funds shall be  
31 expended in connection with leaves of absence granted under RCW  
32 72.01.370 ~~((, subsections))~~ (1) ~~(and (2))~~, unless such ~~((inmate))~~  
33 incarcerated individual and his or her immediate family are indigent  
34 and without resources sufficient to reimburse the state for the  
35 expenses of such leaves of absence.

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