

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - 01/27/2012

EMS & TRAUMA CARE STEERING COMMITTEE  
For Questions: Call 1-360-236-2800 or (360)236-2831

### Introduction

This *Legislative Update* will be updated weekly and emailed to the members of the EMS and Trauma Care Steering Committee and its sub-committees every week during the 2012 Legislative Session beginning January 13, 2012. This update is being provided for information purposes only and is provided at the request of the EMS and Trauma Care Steering Committee. This update is not intended to convey support or opposition on any issue. If you have any questions, please contact Sandra Dlugosz at (360) 236-2831.

For additional information regarding the 2012 Legislative Session and Washington Legislative bills being introduced, please go to: [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov).

### EMS & Trauma System Bills

#### **HB 2366 – Requiring certain professionals to complete education in suicide assessment, treatment, and management – Rep Orwall**

This bill requires education on suicide assessment, treatment, and management for: Certified counselors, certified advisers, chemical dependency professionals, advanced social workers, independent clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors, psychologists, advanced registered nurse practitioners, osteopathic physicians, and physicians. Advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNP), osteopathic physicians, and physicians must advise the regulatory authority of their intent to practice psychiatry.

#### **Proposed SHB 2366 by Rep Cody**

This proposed substitute bill expands the list professions subject to the training to include paramedics and advanced emergency medical technicians. The bill would allow appropriate disciplining authorities to specify minimum training and experience that is sufficient to exempt practitioners from the training requirement and require the authorities to approve the training. Disciplinary authorities would be required to develop a model list of training programs, to be reported to the Legislature by December 15, 2012. The disciplinary authority for EMS personnel is the Department of Health.

**STATUS:** Jan 26 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Health Care and Wellness at 10:00 AM. (Result of action not posted at this time.)

#### **HB 2524 (Companion Bill SB 6290) – Military inactive status for military spouses or registered domestic partners – Rep Orwall, et al**

This request bill by the Department of Veterans Affairs allows the spouse or registered domestic partner of a service member to place a license regulated by the Department of

Health or Department of Licensing on inactive status when the service member is deployed or stationed outside of the state. (This includes EMS personnel.) The bill also adds members of the U.S. public health service commissioned corps to these statutes.

Licensees have six months after the service member is discharged from service to renew their license, or sooner if requested. The licensee must pay the renewal fee. The Secretary of the Department of Health may adopt any rules necessary to implement the bill.

**STATUS:** Jan 26 Referred to Rules 2 Review.

**SB 6290 (Companion Bill 2524) - Concerning military spouses or registered domestic partners occupational licensing status during deployment or placement outside Washington state – Sen Kilmer, et al**  
(See HB 2524 above for description.)

**STATUS:** Jan 30 Scheduled for executive session in the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Tribal Relations and Elections at 10:00 AM.

**SB 6363 (Companion Bill 2625) - Assessing the mobilization of all risk resources during an emergency – Sen Swecker, Pridemore**

The statute allowing mobilization of these resources is focused on fire suppression activities only. This bill broadens the focus for mobilization to “all risk events”. All risk events incorporate not only fire-related events but also incidents such as major earthquakes and other events that may require substantial resources to protect the health and safety of citizens.

**STATUS:** Jan 30 Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Tribal Relations and Elections at 10:00 AM.

**SB 6186 – Concerning limitations on taxing authority of counties for emergency medical services – Sen Swecker**

This bill will require countywide EMS levies to get permission from all political jurisdictions in the county to place an EMS levy on the ballot.

**STATUS:** Feb 2 Scheduled for executive session in the Senate Committee on Government Operations, Tribal Relations and Elections at 10:00 AM.

**HB 2462 – Regarding immunity for health care providers following end-of-life planning declarations – Rep Moeller, et al**

This bill relates to immunity for health care providers who follow end-of life planning declarations that are included in a Physician Order for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form. The proposed language identifies those health care providers who are extended immunity while complying with the patient’s wishes. Absent negligence, a provider acting within the scope of his

or her license and in good faith will not be legally liable or subject to professional sanction for following the directives on the POLST form. The definition of “provider” for purposes of the act encompasses not only health care providers, but also various facilities that provide care.

**STATUS:** Jan 30 Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Judiciary at 1:30 PM.

**HB 2188 (Companion Bill: SB 6021) – Regulating air rescue or evacuation services – Rep Ryu**

This bill describes a subscription service as being able to solicit member subscriptions, charge fees for a subscription, and requirements to operate the independent subscription services. It includes the following:

- Stipulates that an independent subscription service is not considered an insurer, health carrier, health care services contractor, or a health maintenance organization.
- Defines what activities constitute providing rescue, evacuation, emergency transport, and crisis management, and consulting services related to an emergency.
- Requires that the subscription service must satisfy, or contract with a service provider that satisfies, the licensing requirements of the jurisdiction in which the services are provided.
- Provides that a subscription service is not required to own the means of transportation that will be used to provide the contracted services.

**In the Senate**

**STATUS:** Jan 24 First reading, referred to Financial Institutions, Housing & Insurance.

**Injury and Violence Prevention Bills**

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**SB 6308 - Repeal Of Requirement to wear motorcycle helmets – Sen Hatfield**

This bill repeals the requirement that all motorcycle drivers and riders wear a helmet. People riding electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters must comply with bicycle helmet laws and regulations.

**STATUS:** Jan 17 First reading, referred to Transportation.

**The following bill is related to budget and therefore included:**

**HB 2141 – Concerning Fee for Emergency Medical Services Providers – Rep Cody**  
[Introduced in 2011 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Session and reintroduced in current session]

This bill requires DOH to establish fees to cover costs of certification and re-certification of EMS personnel and EMS agencies. It removes the exemption from licensing fees for municipal corporations that provide EMS services.

**STATUS:** Jan 9 By resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status.  
(No Change)

## **Important 2012 Session Cut-off Dates**

- 1/9 First Day of Session.
  - 1/31 House Policy Committee deadline.
  - 2/3 Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
  - 2/7 Last day to read in committee reports from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees in house of origin.
  - 2/14 Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).
  - 2/21 House Policy Committee deadline.
  - 2/23 House Appropriations Committee Deadline.
  - 2/24 Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
  - 2/27 Last day to read in opposite house committee reports from House fiscal committee and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
  - 3/2 Last day to consider opposite house bills (5 p.m.) (except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, matters necessary to implement budgets, amendments, differences, and business related to the interim or closing the session).
  - 3/8 Sine Die -- Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.
- The Governor has five (5) days, excluding Sundays, to take action on any bill passed by the Legislature, provided adjournment does not occur within those five (5) days.