
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1323

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By House State Government, Elections & Information Technology
(originally sponsored by Representatives Wylie, Harris, Nealey,
McBride, Stanford, and Muri; by request of Department of Enterprise
Services)

1 AN ACT Relating to loss prevention reviews by state agencies; and
2 amending RCW 43.19.003, 43.19.782, and 43.19.783.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.19.003 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 102 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

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

8 (1) "Department" means the department of enterprise services.

9 (2) "Director" means the director of enterprise services.

10 (3) "State agency" means every state agency, office, officer,
11 board, commission, institution, and institution of higher education,
12 including all state universities, regional universities, The
13 Evergreen State College, and community and technical colleges.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.19.782 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 508 are each
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (1) (~~The director~~) In consultation with the department and upon
17 delegation, a state agency shall appoint a loss prevention review
18 team when the death of a person, serious injury to a person, or other
19 substantial loss is alleged or suspected to be caused at least in
20 part by the actions of a state agency(~~, unless the director in his~~

1 ~~or her discretion determines that the incident does not merit~~
2 ~~review))~~ except when the death, injury, or substantial loss is
3 already being investigated by another federal or state agency, or by
4 the affected state agency, pursuant to the federal or state agency
5 requirements. Any review conducted by another agency or under other
6 requirements must contain elements of subsection (3) of this section
7 and must comply with section 3 of this act. The department may also
8 direct a state agency to conduct a loss prevention review ((team may
9 ~~also be appointed when any other substantial loss occurs as a result~~
10 ~~of agency policies, litigation or defense practices, or other~~
11 ~~management practices. When the director decides not to appoint a loss~~
12 ~~prevention review team he or she shall issue a statement of the~~
13 ~~reasons for the director's decision. The statement shall be made~~
14 ~~available on the department's web site. The director's decision~~
15 ~~pursuant to this section to appoint or not appoint a loss prevention~~
16 ~~review team shall not be admitted into evidence in a civil or~~
17 ~~administrative proceeding.))~~ after consultation with the affected
18 agency as to the purpose, scope, necessary resources, and intended
19 outcomes of the loss prevention review. The department may provide
20 guidance to the state agency conducting the loss prevention review as
21 requested by the state agency.

22 (2) A loss prevention review team shall consist of at least three
23 ~~((but no more than five))~~ persons, and may include independent
24 consultants, contractors, or state employees, but it shall not
25 include any person ~~((employed by the agency))~~ directly involved in
26 the loss or risk of loss giving rise to the review, nor any person
27 with testimonial knowledge of the incident to be reviewed. At least
28 one member of the review team shall have expertise relevant to the
29 matter under review.

30 (3) The loss prevention review team shall review the death,
31 serious injury, or other incident and the circumstances surrounding
32 it, evaluate its causes, and recommend steps to reduce the risk of
33 such incidents occurring in the future. The loss prevention review
34 team shall accomplish these tasks by reviewing relevant
35 documents~~((τ))~~ and interviewing persons with relevant knowledge~~((τ~~
36 ~~and reporting its recommendations))~~. The loss prevention review team
37 must submit a report in writing to the director and the ~~((director))~~
38 head of the state agency involved in the loss or risk of loss
39 ~~((within the time requested by the director))~~. The report must
40 include the teams' findings, analyze the causes and contributing

1 factors, analyze future risk, include methods that the agency will
2 use to address and mitigate the risks identified, which may include
3 changes to policies or procedures, and any legislative recommendation
4 necessary to address and carry out the risk treatment strategies
5 identified in the subject report and include the manner in which the
6 agency will measure the effectiveness of its changes. The final
7 report shall not disclose the contents of any documents required by
8 law or regulation to be kept private or confidential, or that are
9 subject to legal privilege or exemption.

10 (4) (~~Pursuant to guidelines established by the director,~~) The
11 director may develop and enact rules to implement the provisions of
12 this chapter that apply to all state agency loss prevention review
13 teams. State agencies must notify the department immediately upon
14 becoming aware of a death, serious injury, or other substantial loss
15 that is alleged or suspected to be caused at least in part by the
16 actions of the state agency.

17 (5) All state agencies shall provide the loss prevention review
18 team ready access to relevant documents in their possession and ready
19 access to their employees.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.19.783 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 509 are each
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (1) The final report from ((a)) the state agency's loss
23 prevention review team to the director shall be made public by the
24 director promptly (~~upon receipt~~) after review, and shall be subject
25 to public disclosure. The final report shall be subject to discovery
26 in a civil or administrative proceeding. However, the final report
27 shall not be admitted into evidence or otherwise used in a civil or
28 administrative proceeding except pursuant to subsection (2) of this
29 section.

30 (2) The relevant excerpt or excerpts from the final report of a
31 loss prevention review team may be used to impeach a fact witness in
32 a civil or administrative proceeding only if the party wishing to use
33 the excerpt or excerpts from the report first shows the court by
34 clear and convincing evidence that the witness, in testimony provided
35 in deposition or at trial in the present proceeding, has contradicted
36 his or her previous statements to the loss prevention review team on
37 an issue of fact material to the present proceeding. In that case,
38 the party may use only the excerpt or excerpts necessary to
39 demonstrate the contradiction. This section shall not be interpreted

1 as expanding the scope of material that may be used to impeach a
2 witness.

3 (3) No member of a loss prevention review team may be examined in
4 a civil or administrative proceeding as to (a) the work of the loss
5 prevention review team, (b) the incident under review, (c) his or her
6 statements, deliberations, thoughts, analyses, or impressions
7 relating to the work of the loss prevention review team or the
8 incident under review, or (d) the statements, deliberations,
9 thoughts, analyses, or impressions of any other member of the loss
10 prevention review team, or any person who provided information to it,
11 relating to the work of the loss prevention review team or the
12 incident under review.

13 (4) Any document that exists prior to the appointment of a loss
14 prevention review team, or that is created independently of such a
15 team, does not become inadmissible merely because it is reviewed or
16 used by the loss prevention review team. A person does not become
17 unavailable as a witness merely because the person has been
18 interviewed by or has provided a statement to a loss prevention
19 review team. However, if called as a witness, the person may not be
20 examined regarding the person's interactions with the loss prevention
21 review team, including without limitation whether the loss prevention
22 review team interviewed the person, what questions the loss
23 prevention review team asked, and what answers the person provided to
24 the loss prevention review team. This section shall not be construed
25 as restricting the person from testifying fully in any proceeding
26 regarding his or her knowledge of the incident under review.

27 (5) Documents prepared by or for the loss prevention review team
28 are inadmissible and may not be used in a civil or administrative
29 proceeding, except that excerpts may be used to impeach the
30 credibility of a witness under the same circumstances that excerpts
31 of the final report may be used pursuant to subsection (2) of this
32 section.

33 (6) The restrictions set forth in this section shall not apply in
34 a licensing or disciplinary proceeding arising from an agency's
35 effort to revoke or suspend the license of any licensed professional
36 based in whole or in part upon allegations of wrongdoing in
37 connection with the death, injury, or other incident reviewed by the
38 loss prevention review team.

39 ~~(7) ((Within one hundred twenty days after completion of the~~
40 ~~final report of a loss prevention review team, the agency under~~

1 review shall issue to the department a response to the report. The
2 response will indicate (a) which of the report's recommendations the
3 agency hopes to implement, (b) whether implementation of those
4 recommendations will require additional funding or legislation, and
5 (c) whatever other information the director may require. This
6 response shall be considered part of the final report and shall be
7 subject to all provisions of this section that apply to the final
8 report, including without limitation the restrictions on
9 admissibility and use in civil or administrative proceedings and the
10 obligation of the director to make the final report public.

11 ~~(8))~~ Nothing in RCW ~~((43.41.370))~~ 43.19.782 or this section is
12 intended to limit the scope of a legislative inquiry into or review
13 of an incident that is the subject of a loss prevention review.

14 ~~((9))~~ (8) Nothing in RCW ~~((43.41.370))~~ 43.19.782 or in this
15 section affects chapter 70.41 RCW and application of that chapter to
16 state-owned or managed hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW.

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