SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5937

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2024 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Dhingra, Braun, Hasegawa, Keiser, Kuderer, Liias, Lovelett, Lovick, Nguyen, Nobles, Stanford, Trudeau, Valdez, Wellman, and C. Wilson)

AN ACT Relating to supporting crime victims and witnesses by 1 2 promoting victim-centered, trauma-informed responses; amending RCW 3 7.68.020, 7.68.060, 7.68.066, 7.68.080, 7.68.094, 7.68.170, 7.68.803, 7.69.010, 7.69.030, 9A.44.020, 9A.44.040, and 13.40.210; reenacting 4 5 and amending RCW 9A.04.080; adding a new section to chapter 7.68 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 9A.44 RCW; adding a new section to 6 7 chapter 36.27 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; adding 8 a new section to chapter 70.125 RCW; prescribing penalties; and 9 providing an effective date.

- 10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 11 **Sec. 1.** RCW 7.68.020 and 2020 c 274 s 1 are each amended to read 12 as follows:
- The following words and phrases as used in this chapter have the meanings set forth in this section unless the context otherwise requires.
- 16 (1) "Accredited school" means a school or course of instruction which is:
- 18 (a) Approved by the state superintendent of public instruction, 19 the state board of education, or the state board for community and 20 technical colleges; or

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(b) Regulated or licensed as to course content by any agency of the state or under any occupational licensing act of the state, or recognized by the apprenticeship council under an agreement registered with the apprenticeship council pursuant to chapter 49.04 RCW.

- (2) "Average monthly wage" means the average annual wage as determined under RCW 50.04.355 as now or hereafter amended divided by twelve.
 - (3) "Beneficiary" means a husband, wife, registered domestic partner, or child of a victim in whom shall vest a right to receive payment under this chapter, except that a husband or wife of an injured victim, living separate and apart in a state of abandonment, regardless of the party responsible therefor, for more than one year at the time of the injury or subsequently, shall not be a beneficiary. A spouse who has lived separate and apart from the other spouse for the period of two years and who has not, during that time, received or attempted by process of law to collect funds for maintenance, shall be deemed living in a state of abandonment.
 - (4) "Child" means every natural born child, posthumous child, stepchild, child legally adopted prior to the injury, child born after the injury where conception occurred prior to the injury, and dependent child in the legal custody and control of the victim, all while under the age of eighteen years, or under the age of twenty-three years while permanently enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited school, and over the age of eighteen years if the child is a dependent as a result of a disability.
 - (5) "Consumer price index" means the consumer price index compiled by the bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the state of Washington. If the bureau of labor statistics develops more than one consumer price index for areas within the state, the index covering the greatest number of people, covering areas exclusively within the boundaries of the state, and including all items must be used.
 - (6) "Criminal act" means an act committed or attempted in this state, unless otherwise provided in this chapter, which is: (a) Punishable as a federal offense that is comparable to a felony or gross misdemeanor in this state; (b) punishable as a felony or gross misdemeanor under the laws of this state; (c) an act committed outside the state of Washington against a resident of the state of Washington which would be compensable had it occurred inside this

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- state and the crime occurred in a state which does not have a crime victims' compensation program, for which the victim is eligible as set forth in the Washington compensation law; or (d) trafficking as defined in RCW 9A.40.100. A "criminal act" does not include the following:
- 6 (i) The operation of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, train, boat, or 7 aircraft in violation of law unless:
 - (A) The injury or death was intentionally inflicted;

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- 9 (B) The operation thereof was part of the commission of another 10 nonvehicular criminal act as defined in this section;
 - (C) The death or injury was the result of the operation of a motor vehicle after July 24, 1983, and one of the following applies:
- 13 (I) A preponderance of the evidence establishes that the death 14 was the result of vehicular homicide under RCW 46.61.520;
- 15 (II) The victim submits a copy of a certificate of probable cause 16 filed by the prosecutor stating that a vehicular assault under RCW 17 46.61.522 occurred;
- 18 (III) Charges have been filed against the defendant for vehicular 19 assault under RCW 46.61.522;
- 20 (IV) A conviction of vehicular assault under RCW 46.61.522 has 21 been obtained; or
 - (V) In cases where a probable criminal defendant has died in perpetration of vehicular assault or, in cases where the perpetrator of the vehicular assault is unascertainable because he or she left the scene of the accident in violation of RCW 46.52.020 or, because of physical or mental infirmity or disability the perpetrator is incapable of standing trial for vehicular assault, the department may, by a preponderance of the evidence, establish that a vehicular assault had been committed and authorize benefits;
- 30 (D) The injury or death was caused by a driver in violation of 31 RCW 46.61.502; or
 - (E) The injury or death was caused by a driver in violation of RCW 46.61.655(7)(a), failure to secure a load in the first degree;
 - (ii) Neither an acquittal in a criminal prosecution nor the absence of any such prosecution is admissible in any claim or proceeding under this chapter as evidence of the noncriminal character of the acts giving rise to such claim or proceeding, except as provided for in (d)(i)(C) of this subsection;
- 39 (iii) Evidence of a criminal conviction arising from acts which 40 are the basis for a claim or proceeding under this chapter is

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admissible in such claim or proceeding for the limited purpose of proving the criminal character of the acts; and

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- (iv) Acts which, but for the insanity or mental irresponsibility of the perpetrator, would constitute criminal conduct are deemed to be criminal conduct within the meaning of this chapter.
 - (7) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.
- (8) "Financial support for lost wages" means a partial replacement of lost wages due to a temporary or permanent total disability.
- 10 (9) "Gainfully employed" means engaging on a regular and 11 continuous basis in a lawful activity from which a person derives a 12 livelihood.
- 13 (10) "Injury" means a sudden and tangible happening, of a 14 traumatic nature, producing an immediate or prompt result, and 15 occurring from without, and such physical conditions as result 16 therefrom.
- 17 (11) "Invalid" means one who is physically or mentally incapacitated from earning wages.
 - (12) "Permanent total disability" means loss of both legs, or arms, or one leg and one arm, total loss of eyesight, paralysis, or other condition permanently incapacitating the victim from performing any work at any gainful occupation.
 - (13) "Private insurance" means any source of recompense provided by contract available as a result of the claimed injury or death at the time of such injury or death, or which becomes available any time thereafter.
 - (14) "Public insurance" means any source of recompense provided by statute, state or federal, available as a result of the claimed injury or death at the time of such injury or death, or which becomes available any time thereafter.
 - (15) "Temporary total disability" means any condition that temporarily incapacitates a victim from performing any type of gainful employment as certified by the victim's attending physician.
 - (16) "Victim" means a person who suffers bodily injury or death as a proximate result of a criminal act of another person, the victim's own good faith and reasonable effort to prevent a criminal act, or his or her good faith effort to apprehend a person reasonably suspected of engaging in a criminal act. For the purposes of receiving benefits pursuant to this chapter, "victim" is

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- 1 interchangeable with "employee" or "worker" as defined in chapter
- 2 51.08 RCW as now or hereafter amended.

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- 3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 7.68.060 and 2020 c 308 s 1 are each amended to read 4 as follows:
- 5 (1) Except for applications received pursuant to subsection (6) 6 of this section, no compensation of any kind shall be available under 7 this chapter if:
 - (a) An application for benefits is not received by the department within three years after the date the criminal act was reported to a local police department or sheriff's office or the date the rights of beneficiaries accrued, unless the director has determined that "good cause" exists to expand the time permitted to receive the application. "Good cause" shall be determined by the department on a case-by-case basis and may extend the period of time in which an application can be received for up to five years after the date the criminal act was reported to a local police department or sheriff's office or the date the rights of beneficiaries accrued; or
 - (b) The criminal act is not reported by the victim or someone on his or her behalf to a local police department or sheriff's office within twelve months of its occurrence or, if it could not reasonably have been reported within that period, within twelve months of the time when a report could reasonably have been made. In making determinations as to reasonable time limits, the department shall give greatest weight to the needs of the victims.
 - (2) No person or spouse, child, or dependent of such person is eligible for benefits under this chapter when the injury for which benefits are sought was:
 - (a) The result of consent, provocation, or incitement by the victim, unless an injury resulting from a criminal act caused the death of the victim;
 - (b) Sustained while the crime victim was engaged in the attempt to commit, or the commission of, a felony; or
- 33 (c) Sustained while the victim was confined in any county or city 34 jail, federal jail or prison or in any other federal institution, or 35 any state correctional institution maintained and operated by the 36 department of social and health services or the department of 37 corrections, prior to release from lawful custody; or confined or 38 living in any other institution maintained and operated by the

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department of social and health services or the department of corrections.

- (3) ((Ne)) <u>(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, no person or spouse, child, or dependent of such person is eligible for benefits under this chapter where the person making a claim for such benefits has refused to give reasonable cooperation to state or local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to apprehend and convict the perpetrator of the criminal act which gave rise to the claim.</u>
- (b) Victims of sexual assault, sex trafficking, or domestic violence are eligible to receive benefits under this chapter regardless of whether the person making a claim for such benefits has refused to give reasonable cooperation to state or local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to apprehend and convict the perpetrator of the criminal act which gave rise to the claim as long as the director determines such cooperation may be impacted due to a victim's age, physical condition, psychological state, cultural or linguistic barriers, or any other health or safety concern that jeopardizes the victim's well-being.
- (4) A victim is not eligible for benefits under this chapter if the victim:
- (a) Has been convicted of a felony offense within five years preceding the criminal act for which the victim is applying where the felony offense is a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030 or a crime against persons under RCW 9.94A.411, or is convicted of such a felony offense after the criminal act for which the victim is applying; and
- (b) Has not completely satisfied all legal financial obligations owed.
- (5) Because victims of childhood criminal acts may repress conscious memory of such criminal acts far beyond the age of eighteen, the rights of adult victims of childhood criminal acts shall accrue at the time the victim discovers or reasonably should have discovered the elements of the crime. In making determinations as to reasonable time limits, the department shall give greatest weight to the needs of the victim.
- (6) (a) Benefits under this chapter are available to any victim of a person against whom the state initiates proceedings under chapter 71.09 RCW. The right created under this subsection shall accrue when the victim is notified of proceedings under chapter 71.09 RCW or the victim is interviewed, deposed, or testifies as a witness in connection with the proceedings. An application for benefits under

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this subsection must be received by the department within two years after the date the victim's right accrued unless the director determines that good cause exists to expand the time to receive the application. The director shall determine "good cause" on a case-by-case basis and may extend the period of time in which an application can be received for up to five years after the date the right of the victim accrued. Benefits under this subsection shall be limited to compensation for costs or losses incurred on or after the date the victim's right accrues for a claim allowed under this subsection.

- (b) A person identified as the "minor" in the charge of commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.100, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.101, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.102 is considered a victim of a criminal act for the purpose of the right to benefits under this chapter even if the person is also charged with prostitution under RCW 9A.88.030.
- Sec. 3. RCW 7.68.066 and 2011 c 346 s 205 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) The department may require that the victim present himself or herself for a special medical examination by a physician or physicians selected by the department, and the department may require that the victim present himself or herself for a personal interview. The costs of the examination or interview, including payment of any reasonable <u>round-trip</u> travel expenses, shall be paid by the department as part of the victim's total claim under RCW 7.68.070(1).
- (2) The director may establish a medical bureau within the department to perform medical examinations under this section.
- (3) Where a dispute arises from the handling of any claim before the condition of the injured victim becomes fixed, the victim may request the department to resolve the dispute or the director may initiate an inquiry on his or her own motion. In these cases, the department shall proceed as provided in this section and an order shall issue in accordance with RCW 51.52.050.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 7.68.080 and 2023 c 152 s 1 are each amended to read 35 as follows:
- 36 (1) When the injury to any victim is so serious as to require the 37 ((victim's)) victim being taken from the place of injury to a place 38 of treatment, reasonable transportation costs to and from the nearest

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place of proper treatment to a reasonable location of the victim's choice shall be reimbursed by the department as part of the victim's total claim under RCW 7.68.070(1).

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- (2) In the case of alleged rape or molestation of a child, the reasonable costs of a colposcopy examination shall be reimbursed by the department. Costs for a colposcopy examination given under this subsection shall not be included as part of the victim's total claim under RCW 7.68.070(1).
- (3) The director shall adopt rules for fees and charges for hospital, clinic, medical, and other health care services, including fees and costs for durable medical equipment, eyeglasses, hearing aids, and other medically necessary devices for crime victims under this chapter. The director shall set these service levels and fees at a level no lower than those established for comparable services under the workers' compensation program under Title 51 RCW, except the director shall comply with the requirements of RCW 7.68.030(2)(g) (i) through (iii) when setting service levels and fees, reducing levels and fees when required. In establishing fees for medical and other health care services, the director shall consider the director's duty to purchase health care in a prudent, costeffective manner. The director shall establish rules adopted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. Nothing in this chapter may be construed to require the payment of interest on any billing, fee, or charge.
- (4) Whenever the director deems it necessary in order to resolve any medical issue, a victim shall submit to examination by a physician or physicians selected by the director, with the rendition of a report to the person ordering the examination. The department shall provide the physician performing an examination with all relevant medical records from the victim's claim file. The director, in his or her discretion, may charge the cost of such examination or examinations to the crime victims' compensation fund. If the examination is paid for by the victim, then the cost of said examination shall be reimbursed to the victim for reasonable costs connected with the examination as part of the victim's total claim under RCW 7.68.070(1).
- (5) Victims of sexual assault are eligible to receive appropriate counseling. Fees for such counseling shall be determined by the department. Counseling services may include, if determined

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appropriate by the department, counseling of members of the victim's immediate family, other than the perpetrator of the assault.

- (6) (a) Immediate family members of a homicide victim may receive appropriate counseling to assist in dealing with the immediate, near-term consequences of the related effects of the homicide. Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, up to 12 counseling sessions may be received after the crime victim's claim has been allowed. Fees for counseling shall be determined by the department in accordance with and subject to this section. Payment of counseling benefits under this section may not be provided to the perpetrator of the homicide. The benefits under this subsection may be provided only with respect to homicides committed on or after July 1, 1992.
- (b) The immediate family members of a homicide victim may receive more than 12 counseling sessions under this subsection (6) if a licensed mental health provider determines that:
- (i) Additional sessions are needed as a direct result of the near-term consequences of the related effects of the homicide; and
- (ii) The recipient of the counseling would benefit from additional sessions.
- (7) Pursuant to RCW 7.68.070(13), a victim of a sex offense that occurred outside of Washington may be eligible to receive mental health counseling related to participation in proceedings to civilly commit a perpetrator.
- (8) The crime victims' compensation program shall consider payment of benefits solely for the effects of the criminal act.
- (9) The legislature finds and declares it to be in the public interest of the state of Washington that a proper regulatory and inspection program be instituted in connection with the provision of any services provided to crime victims pursuant to this chapter. In order to effectively accomplish such purpose and to assure that the victim receives such services as are paid for by the state of Washington, the acceptance by the victim of such services, and the request by a provider of services for reimbursement for providing such services, shall authorize the director of the department or the director's authorized representative to inspect and audit all records in connection with the provision of such services. In the conduct of such audits or investigations, the director or the director's authorized representatives may:
- (a) Examine all records, or portions thereof, including patient records, for which services were rendered by a health care provider

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and reimbursed by the department, notwithstanding the provisions of 1 any other statute which may make or purport to make such records 2 privileged or confidential, except that no original patient records 3 shall be removed from the premises of the health care provider, and 4 that the disclosure of any records or information obtained under 5 6 authority of this section by the department is prohibited and constitutes a violation of RCW 42.52.050, unless such disclosure is 7 directly connected to the official duties of the department. The 8 disclosure of patient information as required under this section 9 shall not subject any physician, licensed advanced registered nurse 10 11 practitioner, or other health care provider to any liability for 12 breach of any confidential relationships between the provider and the patient. The director or the director's authorized representative 13 14 shall destroy all copies of patient medical records in their possession upon completion of the audit, investigation, 15 16 proceedings;

(b) Approve or deny applications to participate as a provider of services furnished to crime victims pursuant to this title;

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- (c) Terminate or suspend eligibility to participate as a provider of services furnished to victims pursuant to this title; and
- 21 (d) Pursue collection of unpaid overpayments and/or penalties 22 plus interest accrued from health care providers pursuant to RCW 23 51.32.240(6).
 - (10) When contracting for health care services and equipment, the department, upon request of a contractor, shall keep confidential financial and valuable trade information, which shall be exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW.
- 28 **Sec. 5.** RCW 7.68.094 and 2011 c 346 s 506 are each amended to 29 read as follows:
 - (1) Any victim eligible to receive any benefits or claiming such under this title shall, if requested by the department submit himself or herself for medical examination, at a time and from time to time, at a place reasonably convenient for the victim as may be provided by the rules of the department. An injured victim, whether an alien or other injured victim, who is not residing in the United States at the time that a medical examination is requested may be required to submit to an examination at any location in the United States determined by the department.

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- (2) If the victim refuses to submit to medical examination, or obstructs the same, or, if any injured victim shall persist in unsanitary or injurious practices which tend to imperil or retard his or her recovery, or shall refuse to submit to such medical or surgical treatment as is reasonably essential to his or her recovery does not cooperate in reasonable efforts at such rehabilitation, the department may suspend any further action on any claim of such victim so long as such refusal, obstruction, noncooperation, or practice continues and thus, the department may reduce, suspend, or deny any compensation for such period. The department may not suspend any further action on any claim of a victim or reduce, suspend, or deny any compensation if a victim has good cause for refusing to submit to or to obstruct any examination, evaluation, treatment, or practice requested by the department or required under this section.
 - (3) If the victim necessarily incurs traveling expenses in attending the examination pursuant to the request of the department, such <u>reasonable round-trip</u> traveling expenses shall be repaid to him or her upon proper voucher and audit.

- (4) If the medical examination required by this section causes the victim to be absent from his or her work without pay, the victim shall be paid compensation in an amount equal to his or her usual wages for the time lost from work while attending the medical examination when the victim is insured by the department.
- **Sec. 6.** RCW 7.68.170 and 1979 ex.s. c 219 s 11 are each amended 25 to read as follows:
 - No costs incurred by a hospital or other emergency medical facility in Washington for the examination of the victim of a sexual assault, whether such assault occurred in or outside the state of Washington, when such examination is performed for the purposes of gathering evidence for possible prosecution, shall be billed or charged directly or indirectly to the victim of such assault. Such costs shall be paid by the state pursuant to this chapter.
- **Sec. 7.** RCW 7.68.803 and 2023 c 108 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) No costs incurred by a hospital or other emergency medical facility in Washington for the examination of the victim of domestic violence assault involving nonfatal strangulation, whether such assault occurred in or outside the state of Washington, when such

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- examination is performed for the purposes of gathering evidence for possible prosecution, shall be billed or charged directly or indirectly to the victim of such assault. Such costs shall be paid by the state pursuant to this chapter.
- 5 (2) The department must notify the office of financial management 6 and the fiscal committees of the legislature if it projects that the 7 cost of services provided under this section exceeds the amount of 8 funding provided by the legislature solely for the purposes of this 9 section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 7.68 RCW to read as follows:
- 12 (1) As used in this section, "other state" and "another state" 13 includes the several states, territories, and possessions of the 14 United States, and the District of Columbia.

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- (2) (a) The director shall attempt to enter into an agreement with any other state for reimbursement to the crime victims' compensation fund if a nonresident of the state of Washington who is a victim of a sexual assault or domestic violence assault involving nonfatal strangulation that occurred in another state receives an examination in this state pursuant to RCW 7.68.170 or 7.68.803.
- (b) Following the completion of an agreement, the department shall promptly make a report to the other state showing any costs incurred by a hospital or other emergency medical facility paid by this state pursuant to (a) of this subsection. The department shall ensure that no information related to the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care services as defined in RCW 7.115.010 is provided to any state whose law is against the public policy of the state of Washington as provided in RCW 7.115.020.
- 31 (3) The director is hereby authorized to receive reimbursements 32 to the crime victims' compensation fund from another state pursuant 33 to this section.
- 34 **Sec. 9.** RCW 7.69.010 and 1985 c 443 s 1 are each amended to read 35 as follows:
- In recognition of the severe and detrimental impact of crime on victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of crime and the civic and moral duty of victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of

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1 crimes to fully and voluntarily cooperate with law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, and in further recognition of the continuing 2 importance of such citizen cooperation to state and local law 3 enforcement efforts and the general effectiveness and well-being of 4 the criminal justice system of this state, the legislature declares 5 6 its intent, in this chapter, to grant to the victims of crime and the survivors of such victims a significant role, including enhanced 7 accessibility, in the criminal justice system. The 8 further intends to ensure that all victims and witnesses of crime are 9 treated with dignity, respect, courtesy, and sensitivity; ensure that 10 all victims and witnesses are afforded access to justice to 11 participate in criminal justice proceedings, including the 12 opportunity to participate and attend court hearings in person or 13 remotely, including by video or other electronic means as available 14 in the local jurisdiction; and that the rights extended in this 15 16 chapter to victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of crime are 17 honored ((and)), protected, and upheld by law enforcement agencies, 18 prosecutors, and judges in a manner no less vigorous than the 19 protections afforded criminal defendants.

20 **Sec. 10.** RCW 7.69.030 and 2023 c 197 s 11 are each amended to 21 read as follows:

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- (1) There shall be a reasonable effort made to ensure that victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of crimes have the following rights, which apply to any adult or juvenile criminal proceeding and any civil commitment proceeding under chapter 10.77 or 71.09 RCW:
 - (a) With respect to victims of violent or sex crimes, to receive, at the time of reporting the crime to law enforcement officials, a written statement of the rights of crime victims as provided in this chapter. The written statement shall include the name, address, and telephone number of a county or local crime victim/witness program, if such a crime victim/witness program exists in the county;
- (b) To be informed, by local law enforcement agencies or the prosecuting attorney, that charges have been filed, the defendant has been found not competent to stand trial and referred for restoration services, and of the final disposition of the case, in which the victim, survivor, or witness is involved;

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(c) To be notified by the party who issued the subpoena that a court proceeding to which they have been subpoenaed will not occur as scheduled, in order to save the person an unnecessary trip to court;

- (d) To receive protection from harm and threats of harm arising out of cooperation with law enforcement and prosecution efforts, and to be provided with information as to the level of protection available;
- (e) To be informed of the procedure to be followed to apply for and receive any witness fees to which they are entitled;
- (f) To be provided, whenever practical, a secure waiting area during court proceedings that does not require them to be in close proximity to defendants and families or friends of defendants;
- (g) To have any stolen or other personal property expeditiously returned by law enforcement agencies or the superior court when no longer needed as evidence. When feasible, all such property, except weapons, currency, contraband, property subject to evidentiary analysis, and property of which ownership is disputed, shall be photographed and returned to the owner within ten days of being taken;
- (h) To be provided with appropriate employer intercession services to ensure that employers of victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of crime will cooperate with the criminal justice process or the civil commitment process under chapter 10.77 or 71.09 RCW in order to minimize an employee's loss of pay and other benefits resulting from court appearance;
- (i) To have access to immediate medical assistance and not to be detained for an unreasonable length of time by a law enforcement agency before having such assistance administered. However, an employee of the law enforcement agency may, if necessary, accompany the person to a medical facility to question the person about the criminal incident if the questioning does not hinder the administration of medical assistance. Victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as defined in RCW 49.76.020, shall be notified of their right to reasonable leave from employment under chapter 49.76 RCW;
- (j) With respect to victims of violent and sex crimes, to have a crime victim advocate from a crime victim/witness program, or any other support person of the victim's choosing, present at any prosecutorial or defense interviews with the victim, and at any judicial proceedings related to criminal acts committed against the

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victim. This subsection applies if practical and if the presence of the crime victim advocate or support person does not cause any unnecessary delay in the investigation or prosecution of the case. The role of the crime victim advocate is to provide emotional support to the crime victim;

- (k) With respect to victims and survivors of victims, <u>may attend</u> court proceedings or required interviews in person or remotely, including by video or other electronic means, as available in the local jurisdiction, to ensure access to justice to participate in criminal justice proceedings. Remote access is not to circumvent a victim's or survivor of a victim's right to be physically present in court during trial, or if subpoenaed to testify, to be scheduled as early as practical in the proceedings in order to be physically present during trial after testifying and not to be excluded solely because they have testified;
- (1) With respect to victims and survivors of victims in any felony case, any case involving domestic violence, or any final determination under chapter 10.77 or 71.09 RCW, to be informed by the prosecuting attorney of the date, time, and place of the trial and of the sentencing hearing or disposition hearing upon request by a victim or survivor;
- (m) To submit a victim impact statement or report to the court, with the assistance of the prosecuting attorney if requested, which shall be included in all presentence reports and permanently included in the files and records accompanying the offender committed to the custody of a state agency or institution;
- (n) With respect to victims and survivors of victims in any felony case or any case involving domestic violence, to present a statement, personally or by representation, at the sentencing hearing; and
- (o) With respect to victims and survivors of victims, to entry of an order of restitution by the court in all felony cases, even when the offender is sentenced to confinement, unless extraordinary circumstances exist which make restitution inappropriate in the court's judgment.
- (2) If a victim, survivor of a victim, or witness of a crime is denied a right under this section, the person may seek an order directing compliance by the relevant party or parties by filing a petition in the superior court in the county in which the crime occurred and providing notice of the petition to the relevant party

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- 1 or parties. Compliance with the right is the sole available remedy.
- 2 The court shall expedite consideration of a petition filed under this
- 3 subsection.
- 4 **Sec. 11.** RCW 9A.04.080 and 2023 c 197 s 8 and 2023 c 122 s 8 are 5 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- 6 (1) Prosecutions for criminal offenses shall not be commenced 7 after the periods prescribed in this section.
- 8 (a) The following offenses may be prosecuted at any time after 9 their commission:
- 10 (i) Murder;
- 11 (ii) Homicide by abuse;
- 12 (iii) Arson if a death results;
- 13 (iv) Vehicular homicide;
- 14 (v) Vehicular assault if a death results;
- 15 (vi) Hit-and-run injury-accident if a death results (RCW 16 46.52.020(4));
- 17 (vii) Rape in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.040) if the victim is 18 under the age of sixteen;
- 19 (viii) Rape in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.050) if the victim is 20 under the age of sixteen;
- 21 (ix) Rape of a child in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.073);
- 22 (x) Rape of a child in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.076);
- 23 (xi) Rape of a child in the third degree (RCW 9A.44.079);
- (xii) Sexual misconduct with a minor in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.093);
- 26 (xiii) Custodial sexual misconduct in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.160);
- 28 (xiv) Child molestation in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.083);
- 29 (xv) Child molestation in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.086);
- 30 (xvi) Child molestation in the third degree (RCW 9A.44.089);
- 31 ((and))
- 32 (xvii) Sexual exploitation of a minor (RCW 9.68A.040);
- 33 (xviii) Rape in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.040) if the
- 34 perpetrator is a first responder as defined in RCW 70.54.430 and if
- 35 the first responder used the first responder's position to facilitate
- 36 the commission of the offense;
- 37 (xix) Rape in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.050) if the
- 38 perpetrator is a first responder as defined in RCW 70.54.430 and if

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- the first responder used the first responder's position to facilitate the commission of the offense; and
- 3 (xx) Rape in the third degree (RCW 9A.44.060) if the perpetrator
 4 is a first responder as defined in RCW 70.54.430 and if the first
 5 responder used the first responder's position to facilitate the
 6 commission of the offense.
 - (b) Except as provided in (a) of this subsection, the following offenses may not be prosecuted more than twenty years after its commission:
 - (i) Rape in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.040);
 - (ii) Rape in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.050); or
- 12 (iii) Indecent liberties (RCW 9A.44.100).
- 13 (c) The following offenses may not be prosecuted more than ten 14 years after its commission:
- (i) Any felony committed by a public officer if the commission is in connection with the duties of his or her office or constitutes a breach of his or her public duty or a violation of the oath of office;
- 19 (ii) Arson if no death results;
- 20 (iii) Rape in the third degree (RCW 9A.44.060);
- 21 (iv) Attempted murder; or

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- 22 (v) Trafficking under RCW 9A.40.100.
- 23 (d) A violation of any offense listed in this subsection (1)(d)
 24 may be prosecuted up to ten years after its commission or, if
 25 committed against a victim under the age of eighteen, up to the
 26 victim's thirtieth birthday, whichever is later:
- 27 (i) RCW 9.68A.100 (commercial sexual abuse of a minor);
- 28 (ii) RCW 9.68A.101 (promoting commercial sexual abuse of a 29 minor);
- 30 (iii) RCW 9.68A.102 (promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse 31 of a minor); or
- 32 (iv) RCW 9A.64.020 (incest).
- 33 (e) A violation of RCW 9A.36.170 may be prosecuted up to 10 years 34 after its commission, or if committed against a victim under the age 35 of 18, up to the victim's 28th birthday, whichever is later.
- 36 (f) The following offenses may not be prosecuted more than six years after its commission or discovery, whichever occurs later:
- 38 (i) Violations of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080;
- 39 (ii) Any felony violation of chapter 9A.83 RCW;
- 40 (iii) Any felony violation of chapter 9.35 RCW;

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- 1 (iv) Theft in the first or second degree under chapter 9A.56 RCW when accomplished by color or aid of deception;
 - (v) Theft from a vulnerable adult under RCW 9A.56.400;
- (vi) Trafficking in stolen property in the first or second degree under chapter 9A.82 RCW in which the stolen property is a motor vehicle or major component part of a motor vehicle as defined in RCW 46.80.010; or
- 8 (vii) Violations of RCW 82.32.290 (2)(a)(iii) or (4).

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- 9 (g) The following offenses may not be prosecuted more than five 10 years after its commission: Any class C felony under chapter 74.09, 11 82.36, or 82.38 RCW.
 - (h) Bigamy may not be prosecuted more than three years after the time specified in RCW 9A.64.010.
 - (i) A violation of RCW 9A.56.030 may not be prosecuted more than three years after the discovery of the offense when the victim is a tax exempt corporation under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3).
 - (j) No other felony may be prosecuted more than three years after its commission; except that in a prosecution under RCW 9A.44.115, if the person who was viewed, photographed, or filmed did not realize at the time that he or she was being viewed, photographed, or filmed, the prosecution must be commenced within two years of the time the person who was viewed or in the photograph or film first learns that he or she was viewed, photographed, or filmed.
 - (k) No gross misdemeanor, except as provided under (e) of this subsection, may be prosecuted more than two years after its commission.
 - (1) No misdemeanor may be prosecuted more than one year after its commission.
 - (2) The periods of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section do not run during any time when the person charged is not usually and publicly resident within this state.
 - (3) In any prosecution for a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, the periods of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section run from the date of commission or four years from the date on which the identity of the suspect is conclusively established by deoxyribonucleic acid testing or by photograph as defined in RCW 9.68A.011, whichever is later.
- 38 (4) If, before the end of a period of limitation prescribed in 39 subsection (1) of this section, an indictment has been found or a 40 complaint or an information has been filed, and the indictment,

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- 1 complaint, or information is set aside, then the period of limitation
- 2 is extended by a period equal to the length of time from the finding
- 3 or filing to the setting aside.

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- Sec. 12. RCW 9A.44.020 and 2023 c 197 s 10 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) In order to convict a person of any crime defined in this chapter it shall not be necessary that the testimony of the alleged victim be corroborated.
- (2) Evidence of the victim's past sexual behavior including but not limited to the victim's marital history; divorce history; general reputation for promiscuity, nonchastity, or sexual mores contrary to community standards; or, unless it is related to the alleged offense, social media account, including any text, image, video, or picture, which depict sexual content, sexual history, nudity or partial nudity, intimate sexual activity, communications about sexual activity, communications about sex, sexual fantasies, and other information that appeals to a prurient interest is inadmissible on the issue of credibility and is inadmissible to prove the victim's consent except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, but when the perpetrator and the victim have engaged in sexual intercourse with each other in the past, and when the past behavior is material to the issue of consent, evidence concerning the past behavior between the perpetrator and the victim may be admissible on the issue of consent to the offense.
- (3) In any prosecution for the crime of rape, trafficking pursuant to RCW 9A.40.100, or any of the offenses in chapter 9.68A RCW, or for an attempt to commit, or an assault with an intent to commit any such crime evidence of the victim's past sexual behavior including but not limited to the victim's marital behavior; divorce history; general reputation for promiscuity, nonchastity, or sexual mores contrary to community standards; or, unless it is related to the alleged offense, social media account, including any text, image, video, or picture, which depict sexual content, sexual history, nudity or partial nudity, intimate sexual activity, communications about sexual activity, communications about sex, sexual fantasies, and other information that appeals to a prurient interest is not admissible if offered to attack the credibility of the victim and is admissible on the issue of consent, except where prohibited in the

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1 underlying criminal offense, only pursuant to the following 2 procedure:

- (a) A written pretrial motion shall be made <u>in advance of the trial date</u> by the defendant to the court and prosecutor stating that the defense has an offer of proof of the relevancy of evidence of the past sexual behavior of the victim proposed to be presented and its relevancy on the issue of the consent of the victim.
- (b) The written motion shall be accompanied by an affidavit or affidavits in which the offer of proof shall be stated.
- (c) If the court finds that the offer of proof is sufficient, the court shall order a hearing out of the presence of the jury <u>before</u> the jury is empaneled, if any, and the hearing shall be closed except to the necessary witnesses, the defendant, counsel, and those who have a direct interest in the case or in the work of the court.
- (d) At the conclusion of the hearing, if the court finds that the evidence proposed to be offered by the defendant regarding the past sexual behavior of the victim is relevant to the issue of the victim's consent; is not inadmissible because its probative value is substantially outweighed by the probability that its admission will create a substantial danger of undue prejudice; and that its exclusion would result in denial of substantial justice to the defendant; the court shall make an order stating what evidence may be introduced by the defendant, which order may include the nature of the questions to be permitted. The defendant may then offer evidence pursuant to the order of the court.
- (e) The victim, the victim's attorney, a lawful representative of the victim, or the prosecutor, may assert and seek enforcement of the procedures under this section.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit cross-examination of the victim on the issue of past sexual behavior when the prosecution presents evidence in its case in chief tending to prove the nature of the victim's past sexual behavior, but the court may require a hearing pursuant to subsection (3) of this section concerning such evidence.
- **Sec. 13.** RCW 9A.44.040 and 1998 c 242 s 1 are each amended to 36 read as follows:
- 37 (1) A person is guilty of rape in the first degree when such 38 person engages in sexual intercourse with another person ($(\frac{by}{y})$):
 - (a) By forcible compulsion where the perpetrator or an accessory:

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- 1 $((\frac{a}{a}))$ (i) Uses or threatens to use a deadly weapon or what 2 appears to be a deadly weapon; or
 - $((\frac{b}{b}))$ (ii) Kidnaps the victim; or

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- $((\frac{(c)}{(c)}))$ (iii) Inflicts serious physical injury, including but not limited to physical injury which renders the victim unconscious; or
- 6 $((\frac{d}{d}))$ <u>(iv)</u> Feloniously enters into the building or vehicle 7 where the victim is situated, or where the sexual intercourse occurs; 8 <u>or</u>
- 9 (b) When the victim is incapable of consent by reason of being 10 physically helpless or mentally incapacitated as a result of the 11 perpetrator or an accessory:
- (i) Willfully placing any substance in any food, drink, medicine,

 other edible substance, or vapor product intended or prepared for the

 use of a human being; or
- (ii) Knowingly furnishing any food, drink, medicine, other edible substance, or vapor product containing a substance to the victim, with intent to make physically helpless or mentally incapacitate another person.
- 19 (2) Rape in the first degree is a class A felony.
- 20 (3) For purposes of this section, "vapor product" has the same 21 meaning as provided in RCW 70.345.010.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. A new section is added to chapter 9A.44 23 RCW to read as follows:
- 24 (1) In a criminal proceeding, a depiction of a victim's genitals 25 that was created during a sexual assault medical forensic 26 examination, regardless of its format:
 - (a) Shall not be shown in open judicial proceedings; and
- 28 (b) Must be filed as a confidential document within the court 29 file.
- 30 (2) An expert witness in a criminal proceeding may inspect, view, 31 examine, and provide testimony on a depiction of a victim's genitals 32 that was created during a sexual assault medical forensic 33 examination.
- 34 (3) All depictions of a victim that was created during a sexual 35 assault medical forensic examination must be filed as a confidential 36 document within the court file.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. A new section is added to chapter 9A.44 RCW to read as follows:

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(1) Whenever a depiction of a victim or a victim's genitals that was created during a sexual assault medical forensic examination, regardless of its format, is marked as an exhibit in a criminal proceeding, the prosecutor shall seek an order sealing the exhibit at the close of the trial. Any exhibits sealed under this section shall be sealed with evidence tape in a manner that prevents access to, or viewing of, the depiction of a victim or a victim's genitals that was created during a sexual assault medical forensic examination and shall be labeled so as to identify its contents. Anyone seeking to view such an exhibit must obtain permission from the superior court after providing at least 10 days' notice to the prosecuting attorney. Appellate attorneys for the defendant and the state shall be given access to the exhibit, which must remain in the care and custody of either a law enforcement agency or the court. Any other person moving to view such an exhibit must demonstrate to the court that the person's reason for viewing the exhibit is of sufficient importance to justify another violation of the victim's privacy.

- (2) Whenever the clerk of the court receives an exhibit of a depiction of a victim or a victim's genitals that was created during a sexual assault medical forensic examination, the clerk shall store the exhibit in a secure location, such as a safe. The clerk may arrange for the transfer of such exhibits to a law enforcement agency evidence room for safekeeping provided the agency agrees not to destroy or dispose of the exhibits without an order of the court.
- (3) If the criminal proceeding ends in a conviction, the clerk of the court shall destroy any exhibit containing a depiction of a victim or a victim's genitals that was created during a sexual assault medical forensic examination five years after the judgment is final, as determined by the provisions of RCW 10.73.090(3). Before any destruction, the clerk shall contact the prosecuting attorney and verify that there is no collateral attack on the judgment pending in any court. If the criminal proceeding ends in a mistrial, the clerk shall either maintain the exhibit or return it to the law enforcement agency that investigated the criminal charges for safekeeping until the matter is set for retrial. If the criminal proceeding ends in an acquittal, the clerk shall return the exhibit to the law enforcement agency that investigated the criminal charges for either safekeeping or destruction.

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1 **Sec. 16.** RCW 13.40.210 and 2023 c 150 s 9 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

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- (1) The secretary shall set a release date for each juvenile committed to its custody. The release date shall be within the prescribed range to which a juvenile has been committed under RCW 13.40.0357 or 13.40.030 except as provided in RCW 13.40.320 concerning offenders the department determines are eligible for the juvenile offender basic training camp program. Such dates shall be determined prior to the expiration of sixty percent of a juvenile's minimum term of confinement included within the prescribed range to which the juvenile has been committed. The secretary shall release any juvenile committed to the custody of the department within four calendar days prior to the juvenile's release date or on the release date set under this chapter. Days spent in the custody of the department shall be tolled by any period of time during which a juvenile has absented himself or herself from the department's supervision without the prior approval of the secretary or the secretary's designee.
- (2) The secretary shall monitor the average daily population of the state's juvenile residential facilities. When the secretary concludes that in-residence population of residential facilities exceeds one hundred five percent of the rated bed capacity specified in statute, or in absence of such specification, as specified by the department in rule, the secretary may recommend reductions to the governor. On certification by the governor that the recommended reductions are necessary, the secretary has authoritv administratively release a sufficient number of offenders to reduce in-residence population to one hundred percent of rated bed capacity. The secretary shall release those offenders who have served the greatest proportion of their sentence. However, the secretary may deny release in a particular case at the request of an offender, or if the secretary finds that there is no responsible custodian, as determined by the department, to whom to release the offender, or if the release of the offender would pose a clear danger to society. The department shall notify the committing court of the release at the time of release if any such early releases have occurred as a result of excessive in-residence population. In no event shall an offender adjudicated of a violent offense be granted release under the provisions of this subsection.

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(3) (a) Following the release of any juvenile under subsection (1) of this section, the secretary may require the juvenile to comply with a program of parole to be administered by the department in his or her community which shall last no longer than eighteen months, except that in the case of a juvenile sentenced for a sex offense as defined under RCW 9.94A.030 the period of parole shall be twenty-four months and, in the discretion of the secretary, may be up to thirtysix months when the secretary finds that an additional period of parole is necessary and appropriate in the interests of public safety or to meet the ongoing needs of the juvenile. A parole program is mandatory for offenders released under subsection (2) of this section and for offenders who receive a juvenile residential commitment sentence for theft of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, or taking a motor vehicle without permission 1. A juvenile adjudicated for unlawful possession of a firearm, possession of a stolen firearm, theft of a firearm, or drive-by shooting may participate in aggression replacement training, functional family therapy, or functional family parole aftercare if the juvenile meets eligibility requirements for these services. The decision to place an offender in an evidence-based parole program shall be based on an assessment by the department of the offender's risk for reoffending upon release and an assessment of the ongoing treatment needs of the juvenile. The department shall prioritize available parole resources to provide supervision and services to offenders at moderate to high risk for reoffending.

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(b) The secretary shall, for the period of parole, facilitate the juvenile's reintegration into his or her community and to further this goal shall require the juvenile to refrain from possessing a firearm or using a deadly weapon, and refrain from committing new offenses or violating any orders issued by the juvenile court pursuant to chapter 7.105 RCW, and may require the juvenile to: (i) Undergo available medical, psychiatric, drug and alcohol, health, and other offense-related treatment offender, mental services; (ii) report as directed to a parole officer and/or designee; (iii) pursue a course of study, vocational training, or employment; (iv) notify the parole officer of the current address where he or she resides; (v) be present at a particular address during specified hours; (vi) remain within prescribed geographical boundaries; (vii) submit to electronic monitoring; (viii) refrain from using illegal drugs and alcohol, and submit to random urinalysis

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when requested by the assigned parole officer; (ix) refrain from 1 contact with specific individuals or a specified class 2 individuals; (x) meet other conditions determined by the parole 3 officer to further enhance the juvenile's reintegration into the 4 community; (xi) pay any court-ordered fines or restitution; and (xii) 5 6 perform community restitution. Community restitution for the purpose 7 of this section means compulsory service, without compensation, performed for the benefit of the community by the offender. Community 8 restitution may be performed through public or private organizations 9 or through work crews. 10

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- (c) The secretary may further require up to twenty-five percent of the highest risk juvenile offenders who are placed on parole to intensive supervision participate in an program. Offenders participating in an intensive supervision program shall be required to comply with all terms and conditions listed in (b) of this subsection and shall also be required to comply with the following additional terms and conditions: (i) Obey all laws and refrain from any conduct that threatens public safety; (ii) report at least once a week to an assigned community case manager; and (iii) meet all other requirements imposed by the community case manager related to participating in the intensive supervision program. As a part of the intensive supervision program, the secretary may require reporting.
- (d) After termination of the parole period, the juvenile shall be discharged from the department's supervision.
 - (4)(a) The department may also modify parole for violation thereof. If, after affording a juvenile all of the due process rights to which he or she would be entitled if the juvenile were an adult, the secretary finds that a juvenile has violated a condition of his or her parole, the secretary shall order one of the following which is reasonably likely to effectuate the purpose of the parole and to protect the public: (i) Continued supervision under the same conditions previously imposed; (ii) intensified supervision with increased reporting requirements; (iii) additional conditions of supervision authorized by this chapter; (iv) except as provided in (a)(v) and (vi) of this subsection, imposition of a period of confinement not to exceed thirty days in a facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with the state of Washington or any city or county for a portion of each day or for a certain number of days each week with the balance of the days or weeks spent under supervision;

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(v) the secretary may order any of the conditions or may return the offender to confinement for the remainder of the sentence range if the offense for which the offender was sentenced is rape in the first or second degree, rape of a child in the first or second degree, child molestation in the first degree, indecent liberties with forcible compulsion, or a sex offense that is also a serious violent offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030; and (vi) the secretary may order any of the conditions or may return the offender to confinement for the remainder of the sentence range if the youth has completed the basic training camp program as described in RCW 13.40.320.

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- The secretary may modify parole and order any of the conditions or may return the offender to confinement for up to twenty-four weeks if the offender was sentenced for a sex offense as defined under RCW 9A.44.128 and is known to have violated the terms of parole. Confinement beyond thirty days is intended to only be used for a small and limited number of sex offenders. It shall only be used when other graduated sanctions or interventions have not been effective or the behavior is so egregious it warrants the use of the higher level intervention and the violation: (i) Is a known pattern of behavior consistent with a previous sex offense that puts the youth at high risk for reoffending sexually; (ii) consists of sexual behavior that is determined to be predatory as defined in RCW 71.09.020; or (iii) requires a review under chapter 71.09 RCW, due to a recent overt act. The total number of days of confinement for violations of parole conditions during the parole period shall not exceed the number of days provided by the maximum sentence imposed by the disposition for the underlying offense pursuant to RCW 13.40.0357. The department shall not aggregate multiple parole violations that occur prior to the parole revocation hearing and impose consecutive twenty-four week periods of confinement for each parole violation. The department is authorized to engage in rule making pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, to implement this subsection, including narrowly defining the behaviors that could lead to this higher level intervention.
- (c) If the department finds that any juvenile in a program of parole has possessed a firearm or used a deadly weapon during the program of parole, the department shall modify the parole under (a) of this subsection and confine the juvenile for at least thirty days. Confinement shall be in a facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with the state or any county.

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- 1 (5) A parole officer of the department of children, youth, and 2 families shall have the power to arrest a juvenile under his or her 3 supervision on the same grounds as a law enforcement officer would be 4 authorized to arrest the person.
- 5 (6) If so requested and approved under chapter 13.06 RCW, the 6 secretary shall permit a county or group of counties to perform 7 functions under subsections (3) through (5) of this section.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 17.** A new section is added to chapter 36.27 9 RCW to read as follows:
- 10 (1) The prosecuting attorney of each county in the state of
 11 Washington must coordinate the establishment of a multidisciplinary
 12 team to address adult sexual assault or coordinate with other local
 13 jurisdictions to ensure that resources are available to adult victims
 14 of sexual assault.
- 15 (2) The multidisciplinary team established in subsection (1) of 16 this section must meet at least annually to develop protocols and 17 responses to adult sexual assault.
 - (3) The prosecuting attorney of each county in the state of Washington shall invite the following members to participate in the multidisciplinary team established in subsection (1) of this section:
 - (a) The sheriff of the county or the sheriff's designee;
 - (b) One member representing survivors of sexual assault;

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- (c) One member who is a sexual assault nurse examiner;
- 24 (d) One member who is a sexual assault advocate from ar 25 accredited community sexual assault program;
- 26 (e) One member of a culturally specific sexual assault services 27 program, if available;
- 28 (f) One member from a local hospital or other emergency medical 29 facility; and
- 30 (g) In the discretion of the prosecuting attorney, any other 31 person who would advance the purpose of the multidisciplinary team.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW to read as follows:
- 34 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this 35 specific purpose, the department of health hereby creates a program 36 to ensure statewide forensic nurse coordination.
 - (2) The statewide forensic nurse coordination program shall:

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(a) Provide technical assistance to adult, adolescent, and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner programs and forensic nurse examiner programs across the state;

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- (b) Identify and alleviate barriers faced by hospitals relating to creating, maintaining, or operating adult adolescent, or pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner programs or forensic nurse examiner programs;
- 8 (c) Conduct a statewide needs assessment of adult, adolescent, 9 and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner programs and forensic 10 nurse examiner programs;
 - (d) Provide and maintain centralized resources for adult, adolescent, and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners and forensic nurse examiners;
- 14 (e) Oversee the supply, distribution, and content of Washington 15 standardized sexual assault kits;
- 16 (f) Develop and update standards of care for forensic exams and documentation;
 - (g) Assess and maintain standards for forensic nurse training curriculum for ongoing and didactic training, including preceptorship, by:
- 21 (i) Providing technical assistance to promote consistent 22 trainings across the state with variances as needed;
- 23 (ii) Providing information on trauma-informed and cultural 24 competency standards; and
- (iii) Facilitating surveys and other mechanisms to provide forensic exam patients the ability to give feedback on the patients' experiences that can be used to enhance forensic nurse training standards;
 - (h) Coordinate statewide forensic nurse trainings;
- 30 (i) Develop standardized forensic nurse training videos for 31 hospitals and perform on-site trainings at hospitals;
 - (j) Develop plans to ensure statewide coverage and availability of adult, adolescent, and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners and forensic nurse examiners;
- 35 (k) Maintain and collect data on the availability of adult, 36 adolescent, and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners and forensic 37 nurse examiners;
 - (1) Coordinate with victim advocacy services;

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- 1 (m) Provide organizational and capacity building support to 2 adult, adolescent, and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner 3 programs and forensic nurse examiner programs; and
- 4 (n) Integrate resources for victims of sexual assault into 5 existing local or state referral hotlines.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 19.** A new section is added to chapter 70.125 7 RCW to read as follows:
- 8 (1) Any minor age 13 years or older may consent to a sexual 9 assault forensic examination conducted for the purposes of gathering 10 evidence for possible prosecution.
- 11 (2) Any minor age 13 years or older may give consent to the 12 furnishing of hospital, medical, and surgical care for any sexually 13 transmitted disease or suspected sexually transmitted disease as a 14 result of a sexual assault.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 20. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.
- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 21.** This act takes effect July 1, 2024.

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