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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6134**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Health & Long Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Gildon and L. Wilson)

1 AN ACT Relating to preventing overdose and illicit use of opioids  
2 in Washington state; adding new sections to chapter 43.70 RCW; and  
3 making an appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 The department shall work with local health jurisdictions,  
8 emergency medical service providers, emergency departments, state and  
9 local law enforcement agencies, sheriffs' offices, medical examiners,  
10 and coroners to create a system or utilize an existing system or  
11 systems for mapping reported incidents of fatal and nonfatal drug  
12 overdoses and synthetic opiate poisonings in Washington state.  
13 Emergency departments, state and local law enforcement agencies,  
14 sheriffs' offices, and coroners are encouraged to report data not  
15 more than 24 hours after the incident or after receiving the incident  
16 toxicology report. The department shall examine the extent to which  
17 existing data reporting systems may be used to supply necessary  
18 information, including but not limited to data collected under RCW  
19 43.70.057, and shall to the extent possible and appropriate structure  
20 its recommendations to avoid causing unnecessary increases in data  
21 reporting requirements or duplication of work.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.70  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) The department shall convene stakeholders for the purpose of  
4    developing recommendations for the establishment of a Washington  
5    state opioid overdose trends review committee responsible for:

6        (a) Identifying and reviewing fatal and nonfatal drug overdoses  
7    in the state of Washington;

8        (b) Identifying the causes and contributing factors of overdoses  
9    and overdose-related deaths, and conducting a review of other factors  
10   including, but not limited to, housing status, behavioral health  
11   status, or criminal justice system involvement;

12       (c) Developing recommendations to address preventable overdose-  
13   related deaths, including legislation, policies, areas for scientific  
14   research, rules, training, and best practices that reduce harm and  
15   support the health and safety of individuals who use substances, and  
16   prevent overdose-related deaths;

17       (d) Providing annual updates on drug trends, including synthetic  
18   drugs that may impact the health and well-being of Washingtonians and  
19   that present a high risk for causing overdose-related deaths, and  
20   making policy-related and funding-related recommendations to the  
21   governor and the legislature based on these trends;

22       (e) Establishing a process for data sharing between state  
23   departments, counties, local health jurisdictions, tribal partners,  
24   community overdose prevention groups, and other relevant entities in  
25   order to access necessary data concerning fatal and nonfatal drug-  
26   related overdoses in Washington; and

27       (f) Ensuring coordination and integration with the state's opioid  
28   overdose response learning community, led by the health care  
29   authority.

30       (2) In convening the interested stakeholders pursuant to  
31   subsection (1) of this section, the department shall invite a variety  
32   of interested stakeholders, including public health experts,  
33   physicians, law enforcement, coroners, and persons who have  
34   experienced an overdose.

35       (3) By November 1, 2025, the department shall submit a report  
36   making recommendations for how a Washington state opioid overdose  
37   trends review committee would be established to meet the  
38   responsibilities outlined in subsection (1) of this section to the  
39   governor and appropriate committees of the legislature. Such report  
40   shall take into consideration:

1 (a) The determination of what interested stakeholders should be  
2 included in any review committee;

3 (b) How often the committee should meet on an annual basis;

4 (c) Whether the review committee should be encompassed into the  
5 structure of the current state opioid response plan as codified in  
6 RCW 43.70.770; and

7 (d) Any and all costs associated with implementing subsection  
8 (1)(a) through (e) of this section.

9 (4) The department shall establish the Washington state opioid  
10 overdose trends review committee by September 1, 2026.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of \$7,000,000, or as much thereof  
12 as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June  
13 30, 2025, from the general fund to the criminal justice training  
14 commission for the purpose of the Washington association of sheriffs  
15 and police chiefs to administer a grant program for  
16 multijurisdictional drug task forces. The Washington association of  
17 sheriffs and police chiefs shall require grant recipients to adhere  
18 to the same peer review and reporting requirements that existed for  
19 recipients of the Edward Byrne memorial justice assistance grant  
20 funds as those requirements existed on January 1, 2023. The  
21 Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs may retain up to  
22 five percent of the amounts provided in this section for  
23 administration of the program.

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