

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5179

As of February 1, 2021

Title: An act relating to blood donation.

Brief Description: Concerning blood donation.

Sponsors: Senators Liias, Rivers, Das, Randall and Wilson, C..

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Health & Long Term Care: 2/03/21.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Permits anyone between the ages of 16 and 17 to donate blood, including donation through apheresis, after obtaining parental permission.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG TERM CARE

Staff: Ricci Crinzi (786-7253)

Background: The Department of Health regulates blood establishments in the state. Anyone over the age of 18 may donate blood without parental permission. The Washington State Office of the Attorney General published an opinion on donating blood and included that Washington State teenagers who are 16 and 17 can donate with parental consent.

Blood donation through apheresis is the process of blood collected via a special machine to separate the blood during the donation, so that only certain parts of the blood are collected and the remainder returned to the donor. This allows more red blood cells or platelets to be collected in one sitting.

Summary of Bill: Anyone 18 and older can donate blood, including donation through apheresis, without parental permission. Anyone between the ages of 16 and 17 may donate blood, including donation through apheresis, with parental permission.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.