
HOUSE BILL 1816

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representative Scott

1 AN ACT Relating to civilian-staffed crisis response teams;
2 reenacting and amending RCW 42.56.230; and adding a new section to
3 chapter 38.52 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 38.52
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) A city with a population of more than 500,000 may establish
8 and maintain a civilian-staffed crisis response team operating
9 outside of a general authority Washington law enforcement agency.

10 (2) The crisis response team is authorized to serve as the
11 primary response to 911 calls or on-view events when there is no
12 report of active or imminent violence or possession of weapons and
13 when the calls or events are regarding:

14 (a) A person in crisis with no request for law enforcement;

15 (b) A person who appears to need, or is reported to need, a
16 safety and welfare check; or

17 (c) A request by a member of the public for resources including,
18 but not limited to, shelter, food, or transportation.

19 (3) For calls not included in subsection (2) of this section, the
20 crisis response team may also serve as a secondary response in

1 support of a law enforcement response as determined by the executive
2 head of the city.

3 (4) The executive head of the city will set minimum
4 qualifications for crisis responders that must include training in
5 scene safety, de-escalation, and interacting with individuals in
6 crisis.

7 (5) The executive head of the city may determine the
8 characteristics of the crisis response team including, but not
9 limited to:

10 (a) The department in which the crisis response team is situated;

11 (b) The number of staff assigned to the crisis response team and
12 their required qualifications, consistent with the minimum
13 qualifications set forth in subsection (4) of this section;

14 (c) The deployable areas and hours of operation; and

15 (d) The specific types of calls in which primary 911 dispatch is
16 appropriate, consistent with the criteria set forth in subsection (2)
17 of this section.

18 (6) For any collective bargaining agreement covering law
19 enforcement personnel with an effective date on or after January 1,
20 2026, any provision in conflict with this section is preempted and is
21 unenforceable. A city covered by this section is prohibited from
22 collectively bargaining with a bargaining unit representing law
23 enforcement personnel in regard to the transfer of the 911 response
24 duties in subsection (2) of this section to a civilian-staffed crisis
25 response team.

26 (7) Any provision in a collective bargaining agreement covering
27 law enforcement personnel with an effective date prior to January 1,
28 2026, that conflicts with this section or limits a city's ability to
29 fully comply with this section may not be extended or renewed beyond
30 the expiration date of the collective bargaining agreement.

31 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 41.56 RCW, a city
32 covered by this section is prohibited from collectively bargaining
33 with a bargaining unit representing law enforcement personnel in
34 regard to any decisions made by the executive head of a city pursuant
35 to subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this section. However, to the
36 extent such decisions impact the wages, hours, and other working
37 conditions of law enforcement personnel, such impacts are subject to
38 collective bargaining to the extent required by chapter 41.56 RCW.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.56.230 and 2023 c 361 s 14, 2023 c 346 s 1, and
2 2023 c 182 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3 The following personal information is exempt from public
4 inspection and copying under this chapter:

5 (1) Personal information in any files maintained for students in
6 public schools, patients or clients of public institutions or public
7 health agencies, individuals receiving public safety or health
8 services from a nonlaw enforcement agency under section 1 of this
9 act, or welfare recipients;

10 (2)(a) Personal information:

11 (i) For a child enrolled in licensed child care in any files
12 maintained by the department of children, youth, and families;

13 (ii) For a child enrolled in a public or nonprofit program
14 serving or pertaining to children, adolescents, or students,
15 including but not limited to early learning or child care services,
16 parks and recreation programs, youth development programs, and after-
17 school programs;

18 (iii) For a student enrolled or previously enrolled in a local
19 education agency, in any records pertaining to the student, including
20 correspondence;

21 (iv) For the family members or guardians of a child who is
22 subject to the exemption under this subsection (2) if the family
23 member or guardian has the same last name as the child or if the
24 family member or guardian resides at the same address as the child
25 and disclosure of the family member's or guardian's information would
26 result in disclosure of the personal information exempted under
27 (a)(i) through (iii) of this subsection; or

28 (v) For substitute caregivers who are licensed or approved to
29 provide overnight care of children by the department of children,
30 youth, and families.

31 (b) Emergency contact information under this subsection (2) may
32 be provided to appropriate authorities and medical personnel for the
33 purpose of treating the individual during an emergency situation;

34 (3) Personal information in files maintained for employees,
35 appointees, or elected officials of any public agency to the extent
36 that disclosure would violate their right to privacy;

37 (4) Information required of any taxpayer in connection with the
38 assessment or collection of any tax if the disclosure of the
39 information to other persons would: (a) Be prohibited to such persons
40 by RCW 84.08.210, 82.32.330, 84.40.020, 84.40.340, or any ordinance

1 authorized under RCW 35.102.145; or (b) violate the taxpayer's right
2 to privacy or result in unfair competitive disadvantage to the
3 taxpayer;

4 (5) Credit card numbers, debit card numbers, electronic check
5 numbers, card expiration dates, or bank or other financial
6 information as defined in RCW 9.35.005 including social security
7 numbers, except when disclosure is expressly required by or governed
8 by other law;

9 (6) Personal and financial information related to a small loan or
10 any system of authorizing a small loan in RCW 31.45.093;

11 (7)(a) Any record used to prove identity, age, residential
12 address, social security number, or other personal information
13 required to apply for a driver's license or identicard.

14 (b) Information provided under RCW 46.20.111 that indicates that
15 an applicant declined to register with the selective service system.

16 (c) Any record pertaining to a vehicle license plate, driver's
17 license, or identicard issued under RCW 46.08.066 that, alone or in
18 combination with any other records, may reveal the identity of an
19 individual, or reveal that an individual is or was, performing an
20 undercover or covert law enforcement, confidential public health
21 work, public assistance fraud, or child support investigative
22 activity. This exemption does not prevent the release of the total
23 number of vehicle license plates, drivers' licenses, or identicards
24 that, under RCW 46.08.066, an agency or department has applied for,
25 been issued, denied, returned, destroyed, lost, and reported for
26 misuse.

27 (d) Any record pertaining to a vessel registration issued under
28 RCW 88.02.330 that, alone or in combination with any other records,
29 may reveal the identity of an individual, or reveal that an
30 individual is or was, performing an undercover or covert law
31 enforcement activity. This exemption does not prevent the release of
32 the total number of vessel registrations that, under RCW 88.02.330,
33 an agency or department has applied for, been issued, denied,
34 returned, destroyed, lost, and reported for misuse.

35 Upon request by the legislature, the department of licensing
36 shall provide a report to the legislature containing all of the
37 information in (c) of this subsection (7) and this subsection (7)(d)
38 that is subject to public disclosure;

39 (8) All information related to individual claim resolution
40 settlement agreements submitted to the board of industrial insurance

1 appeals under RCW 51.04.063, other than final orders from the board
2 of industrial insurance appeals. The board of industrial insurance
3 appeals shall provide to the department of labor and industries
4 copies of all final claim resolution settlement agreements;

5 (9) Voluntarily submitted information contained in a database
6 that is part of or associated with 911 emergency communications
7 systems, or information contained or used in emergency notification
8 systems as provided under RCW 38.52.575 and 38.52.577;

9 (10) Information relating to a future voter, as provided in RCW
10 29A.08.725;

11 (11) All information submitted by a person to the state, either
12 directly or through a state-licensed gambling establishment, or
13 Indian tribes, or tribal enterprises that own gambling operations or
14 facilities with class III gaming compacts, as part of the self-
15 exclusion program established in RCW 9.46.071 or 67.70.040 for people
16 with a gambling problem or gambling disorder;

17 (12) Names, addresses, or other personal information of
18 individuals who participated in the bump-fire stock buy-back program
19 under former RCW 43.43.920; and

20 (13) All personal and financial information concerning a player
21 that is received or maintained by the state lottery or any contracted
22 lottery vendor except the player's name and city or town of
23 residence. Additional information may be released only in accordance
24 with prior written permission from the player.

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