CHAPTER 175

HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME RECORDS—RETENTION

AN ACT Relating to the retention of hospital and nursing home records; adding a new section to chapter 70.41 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 18.51 RCW.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 70.41 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Unless specified otherwise by the board, a hospital shall retain and preserve all medical records which relate directly to the care and treatment of a patient for a period of no less than ten years following the most recent discharge of the patient; except the records of minors, which shall be retained and preserved for a period of no less than three years following attainment of the age of eighteen years, or ten years following such discharge, whichever is longer.
If a hospital ceases operations, it shall make immediate arrangements, as approved by the department, for preservation of its records.

The board shall by regulation define the type of records and the information required to be included in the medical records to be retained and preserved under this section; which records may be retained in photographic form pursuant to chapter 5.46 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 18.51 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Unless specified otherwise by the board, a nursing home shall retain and preserve all records which relate directly to the care and treatment of a patient for a period of no less than ten years following the most recent discharge of the patient; except the records of minors, which shall be retained and preserved for a period of no less than three years following attainment of the age of eighteen years, or ten years following such discharge, whichever is longer.

If a nursing home ceases operations, it shall make immediate arrangements, as approved by the department, for preservation of its records.

The board shall by regulation define the type of records and the information required to be included in the records to be retained and preserved under this section; which records may be retained in photographic form pursuant to chapter 5.46 RCW.

Passed the Senate May 27, 1975.
Passed the House May 22, 1975.
Approved by the Governor June 4, 1975.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State June 4, 1975.

CHAPTER 176
[Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2070]
CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION

AN ACT Relating to crime victims compensation; amending section 2, chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 7.68.020; amending section 6, chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 7.68.060; amending section 7, chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 7.68.070; amending section 8, chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 7.68.080; amending section 11, chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 7.68.110; amending section 14, chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 7.68.140; adding new sections to chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and to chapter 7.68 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Section 1. Section 1. Section 2, chapter 122, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 7.68.020 are each amended to read as follows:

The following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Department" means the department of labor and industries((c)).

(2) "Criminal act" means an act committed or attempted in this state which is punishable as a felony or gross misdemeanor under the laws of this state: PROVIDED, That the operation of a motor vehicle, motorcycle, train, boat, or aircraft in violation of law does not constitute a "criminal act" unless the injury or death was intentionally inflicted or the operation thereof was part of the commission of another criminal act as defined in this section: PROVIDED FURTHER: (a) That