

CHAPTER 78

[Engrossed House Bill No. 322]
SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION OF
HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

AN ACT Relating to school districts providing school bus transportation for handicapped children.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. The directors of school districts are authorized to lease school buses to nonprofit organizations to transport handicapped children to and from the site of activities deemed beneficial to such children by such organizations: PROVIDED, That commercial bus transportation is not reasonably available for such purposes.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The directors of school districts may authorize leases under this act: PROVIDED, That such leases do not conflict with regular school purposes.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The lease of the equipment shall be handled by the school directors at a local level. The school directors may establish criteria for bus use and lease, including, but not limited to, minimum costs, and driver requirements.

Passed the House March 10, 1971.

Passed the Senate March 10, 1971.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 1971.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 23, 1971.

CHAPTER 79

[Engrossed House Bill No. 523]
COUNTIES--
EMPLOYEE SAFETY AWARDS

AN ACT Relating to counties; authorizing employee safety awards; and adding a new section to Title 36 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to Title 36 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The board of county commissioners may establish an employee safety award program to reward and encourage the safe performance of assigned duties by county employees.

The board may establish standards and regulations necessary or appropriate for the proper administration and for otherwise accomplishing the purposes of such program.

The board may authorize every department head and other

officer of county government who oversees or directs county employees to make the determination as to whether an employee safety award will be made.

Such awards shall be made annually from the county general fund by warrant on vouchers duly authorized by the board according to the following schedule based upon safe and accident-free performance:

5 years.....	\$ 2.50
10 years.....	5.00
15 years.....	7.50
20 years.....	10.00
25 years.....	12.50
30 years.....	20.00: PROVIDED, That the

board may give such department heads and other officers overseeing and directing county employees discretion to purchase a noncash award of equal value in lieu of the cash award. If a noncash award is given the warrants shall be made payable to the business enterprise from which the noncash award is purchased.

However, safety awards made to persons whose safe and accident-free performance has directly benefited the county road system shall be made from the county road fund by warrant on vouchers duly authorized by the board.

Passed the House March 10, 1971.

Passed the Senate March 9, 1971.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 1971.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 23, 1971.

CHAPTER 80
[Engrossed House Bill No. 720]
LIMITATION OF ACTIONS--
MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

AN ACT Relating to limitations of actions; and adding a new section to chapter 4.16 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 4.16 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Any civil action for damages against a hospital which is licensed by the state of Washington or against the personnel of any hospital, or against a member of the healing arts including, but not limited to, a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW or chapter 18.57 RCW, chiropractor licensed under RCW 18.25, a dentist licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW, or a nurse licensed under chapter 18.88 or 18.78 RCW, based upon alleged professional negligence shall be