

## **REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**

### **DSHS - Special Commitment Center**

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5187, Section 207(5)

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 2023 Washington State Legislature enacted Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5187, the 2023-25 Operating Budget which provides:

*\$150,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 is provided solely for the department to conduct an assessment of wireless internet implementation needs and options.*

The proviso also requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to include an assessment of satellite and fiber options and submit a report with this information to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 15, 2023.

Unrelated to the funded proviso in the 2023-25 Operating Budget, DSHS moved forward with an Electronic Health Record (EHR) readiness project in Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) to prepare the Department to move to a future EHR solution. Part of the EHR readiness project was an assessment to determine the Wi-Fi needs for the Special Commitment Center (SCC), which occurred prior to receiving funds in the 2023-25 operating budget.

### **Work Completed in Fiscal Year 2023**

SCC was able to complete the following items associated with Wi-Fi as part of the EHR readiness project:

- Wi-Fi assessment by WaTech
- Wireless Access Point (WAP) identification/needs
- Procurement of WAPs
- Installation of Conduit, Cabling and Power

### **Remaining Activities to be Completed in Fiscal Year 2024**

The two remaining steps for functional Wi-Fi at SCC are the installation of enclosures and installation of WAPs. The timeline for the wiring, staging, install, testing and go-live began on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. The work is expected to be complete with functional Wi-Fi in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024.