

1 **SHB 2151** - H AMD

2 By Representatives Carrell and Dickerson

3 On page 1, after the enacting clause, insert the following:

4 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds there has been an  
5 increase in criminal abuse, assault, neglect, and sexual offenses  
6 against vulnerable persons. The legislature further finds that  
7 criminal and juvenile offense adjudication proceedings involving  
8 vulnerable persons may be hindered or precluded due to the incompetence  
9 or unavailability of a vulnerable person at the time of trial despite  
10 an otherwise reliable statement made by the vulnerable person  
11 concerning any abuse, assault, neglect, or sexual offenses against the  
12 vulnerable person. The state has a compelling interest in providing  
13 vulnerable persons who are victims of such crimes the ability to ensure  
14 reliable evidence is made available in court on their behalf. The  
15 legislature intends that this chapter make admissible as evidence the  
16 reliable hearsay of vulnerable persons, while ensuring the  
17 constitutional rights of other parties.-

18 Renumber the remaining section accordingly and correct the title.

**EFFECT:** Adds an intent section.