
SENATE BILL 6523

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senator Smith

Read first time 01/17/96. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to civil disorder involving acts of violence;
2 adding a new section to chapter 9A.84 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.84 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Any person who:

7 (a) Teaches or demonstrates to any other person the use,
8 application, making of any explosive, or incendiary device, or
9 technique capable of causing injury or death to persons, knowing,
10 having reason to know, or intending that same will be unlawfully
11 employed for use in, or in furtherance of, a civil disorder; or

12 (b) Assembles with one or more persons for the purpose of training
13 or instructing in the use of, or practicing with, any technique or
14 means capable of causing property damage, bodily injury or death with
15 the intent to employ such training, instruction, or practice in the
16 commission of a civil disorder;

17 shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars or imprisoned not
18 more than five years, or both.

19 (2) Nothing in this section makes unlawful the following:

1 (a) Any act protected pursuant to Article I, section 24 of the
2 state Constitution;

3 (b) Any act of any peace officer which is performed in the lawful
4 performance of the law enforcement officer's official duties;

5 (c) Any activity of the department of fish and wildlife, state fish
6 and wildlife commission, any governmental military force, the
7 department of corrections, or any law enforcement agency;

8 (d) Any activity intended to teach or practice self-defense or
9 self-defense techniques, such as karate clubs or self-defense clinics,
10 and similar lawful activity;

11 (e) Any facility, program, or lawful activity related to firearms
12 instruction and training intended to teach the safe handling and use of
13 firearms; or

14 (f) Any other lawful sports or activities related to the individual
15 recreational use or possession of firearms, including but not limited
16 to, hunting activities, target shooting, self-defense, firearms
17 collection, or any organized activity including, but not limited to,
18 any hunting club, rifle club, rifle range, or shooting range which does
19 not include a subversive activity under chapter 9.81 RCW or the
20 knowledge of or the intent to cause or further a civil disorder.

21 (3) As used in this section:

22 (a) "Civil disorder" means any public disturbance involving acts of
23 violence by assemblages of one or more persons, which causes an
24 immediate danger of, results in damage, or injury to the property or
25 person of any other individual.

26 (b) "Firearm" means any weapon which is designed to or may readily
27 be converted to expel any projectile by the action of an explosive; or
28 the frame or receiver of any such weapon.

29 (c) "Explosive or incendiary device" means (i) dynamite and all
30 other forms of high explosives, (ii) any explosive bomb, grenade,
31 missile, or similar device, and (iii) any incendiary bomb or grenade,
32 fire bomb, or similar device, including any device which (A) consists
33 of or includes a breakable container including a flammable liquid or
34 compound, and a wick composed of any material which, when ignited, is
35 capable of igniting such flammable liquid or compound, and (B) can be
36 carried or thrown by one individual acting alone.

37 (d) "Law enforcement officer" means any officer or employee of the
38 United States, any state, any political subdivision of a state, or the
39 District of Columbia, and such term shall specifically include, but not

1 be limited to, members of the national guard, as defined in 10 U.S.C.
2 Sec. 101(9), members of the organized militia of any state or territory
3 of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District
4 of Columbia, not included within the definition of national guard as
5 defined in 10 U.S.C. Sec. 101(9) and members of the armed forces of the
6 United States.

--- END ---