
SENATE BILL 6496

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2002 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Kline, McCaslin and Winsley

Read first time 01/18/2002. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to vehicular pursuit by law enforcement officers;
2 adding new sections to chapter 43.101 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends to improve the
5 safety of law enforcement officers and the public by providing
6 consistent education and training for officers in the matter of vehicle
7 pursuit. The legislature recognizes there are a multitude of factors
8 which enter into the determination of pursuit and intends that the
9 criminal justice training commission be given the responsibility of
10 identifying those factors and developing appropriate standards for
11 training of law enforcement officers in this area.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101 RCW
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) By December 1, 2002, the Washington state criminal justice
15 training commission, the Washington state patrol, and the Washington
16 association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall develop a written model
17 policy on vehicular pursuits.

1 (2) The model policy must meet all of the following minimum
2 standards:

3 (a) Provide for supervisory control, if available, of the pursuit;

4 (b) Provide procedures for designating the primary pursuit vehicle
5 and for determining the total number of vehicles to be permitted to
6 participate at one time in the pursuit;

7 (c) Provide procedures for coordinating operations with other
8 jurisdictions; and

9 (d) Provide guidelines for determining when the interests of public
10 safety and effective law enforcement justify a vehicular pursuit and
11 when a vehicular pursuit should not be initiated or should be
12 terminated.

13 (3) By June 1, 2003, every state, county, and municipal law
14 enforcement agency shall adopt and implement a written vehicular
15 pursuit policy. The policy adopted may, but need not, be the model
16 policy developed under subsections (1) and (2) of this section.
17 However, any policy adopted must address the minimum requirements
18 specified in subsection (2) of this section.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) By June 30, 2005, every full-time law enforcement officer
22 employed by a state, county, or municipal law enforcement agency shall
23 have been trained on vehicular pursuits. Every new full-time law
24 enforcement officer employed by a state, county, or municipal law
25 enforcement agency after that date also shall be trained, within six
26 months of employment, on vehicular pursuits.

27 (2) The Washington state criminal justice training commission, in
28 consultation with the Washington state patrol and the Washington
29 association of sheriffs and police chiefs, shall develop and conduct
30 the training. At a minimum, the training shall cover the information
31 required by section 2(2) of this act to be included in vehicular
32 pursuit policies.

--- END ---