

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SSB 5418

*As Reported By House Committee on:
Judiciary*

Title: An act relating to criminal justice.

Brief Description: Creating an interagency criminal justice work group.

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Thorsness, Rasmussen, Nelson and Talmadge).

Brief History:

Reported by House Committee on:
Judiciary, April 5, 1991, DPA.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY**

Majority Report: *Do pass as amended.* Signed by 15 members: Representatives Appelwick, Chair; Ludwig, Vice Chair; Padden, Ranking Minority Member; Paris, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Broback; Forner; Hargrove; Inslee; Mielke; Riley; Scott; D. Sommers; Tate; Vance; and Wineberry.

Minority Report: *Do not pass.* Signed by 3 members: Representatives Belcher; R. Meyers; and H. Myers.

Staff: Bill Perry (786-7123).

Background: The interagency criminal justice work group was established by Executive Order 81-15 to provide a central forum for communication between law enforcement entities and to facilitate statewide coordination of criminal justice services.

Summary of Amended Bill: The interagency criminal justice work group is statutorily created. The group is required to, among other things: (1) identify issues which are problems for state and local law enforcement agencies; (2) develop immediate and long-range plans for alleviating prison and jail overcrowding; and (3) study and make recommendations regarding police brutality and harassment.

The membership of the interagency criminal justice work group is delineated.

There is a general fund appropriation of \$30,000 to the work group for the biennium ending June 30, 1993. The work group ceases to exist on July 1, 1996.

Amended Bill Compared to Substitute Bill: The amendment includes requirements that the work group examine the problem of police brutality.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Appropriation: Yes.

Effective Date of Amended Bill: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: Original bill: The bill will assure continuance of a useful cooperative effort to address law enforcement issues.

Testimony Against: Original bill: The bill is an unnecessary limitation on executive branch flexibility.

Witnesses: Mike Redman, Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (in favor of original bill); and Sid Sidorowicz, Governor's Office (opposed to original bill).