
HOUSE BILL 1795

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Representatives J. Kohl, Padden, Riley, Appelwick, Foreman, Roland, R. Fisher, Dellwo, Campbell, Anderson, Wineberry and Johanson

Read first time 02/10/93. 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 finds that whether to
5 initiate and how to conduct a vehicular pursuit requires careful
6 evaluation of numerous factors by the law enforcement officer or
7 officers involved. The risk posed to the well-being and property of
8 bystanders is of great significance among those factors.

9 The legislature further finds law enforcement officers in the state
10 of Washington may benefit from additional formal training on vehicular
11 pursuits.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) In addition to its common law meaning,
13 "vehicular pursuit" means an attempt by a law enforcement officer to
14 apprehend a suspect in a moving vehicle who has committed a felony, or
15 who reasonably is suspected of having committed a felony, and who
16 refuses to comply voluntarily with the law enforcement officer's visual
17 or audible signal to stop.

18 (2) By December 31, 1993, every state, county, and municipal law
19 enforcement agency shall adopt and implement a written policy on
20 vehicular pursuits complying with subsection (3) of this section.

1 (3) A written policy adopted by a law enforcement agency must meet
2 all of the following minimum 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 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) By December 31, 1994, every full-time
14 law enforcement officer employed by a state, county, or municipal law
15 enforcement agency shall have been trained on vehicular pursuits.
16 Every new full-time law enforcement officer employed by a state,
17 county, or municipal law enforcement agency after that date also shall
18 be trained, within six months of employment, on vehicular pursuits.

19 (2) The criminal justice training commission, in conjunction with
20 the Washington state patrol and the Washington association of sheriffs
21 and police chiefs, shall develop the training. At a minimum, the
22 training shall cover the information required by section 2 of this act
23 to be included in a written vehicular pursuit policy. The criminal
24 justice training commission shall conduct the training.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act are added to
26 chapter 43.101 RCW.

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