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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1922**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Corrections (originally sponsored by Representatives Lemmon, Mastin, Morris, Hansen, Basich, Kessler, Johanson, Scott, Tate, Bray, Campbell, Dunshee, Eide, Orr, Grant, Lisk, Ludwig, R. Meyers, Springer, Finkbeiner, Dorn, Vance, Quall, Kremen, Rayburn, Brough, Foreman, Riley, L. Johnson, Horn, King, Forner, Roland, Ogden, Thomas, Brumsickle, Long, Casada, Ballasiotes, Mielke, Cooke, Van Luven and Karahalios)

Read first time 03/03/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to creation of a work ethic boot camp; adding new  
2 sections to chapter 72.09 RCW; providing an effective date; and  
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that high crime rates  
6 and a heightened sense of vulnerability have led to increased public  
7 pressure on criminal justice officials to increase offender punishment  
8 and remove the most dangerous criminals from our streets. As a result,  
9 we are facing an unprecedented growth in the corrections populations  
10 and consequent overcrowding of prisons and local jails. Skyrocketing  
11 correctional costs and intolerably high rates of recidivism by released  
12 prisoners, or offenders on community supervision or probation, have  
13 become issues of major public concern. Our corrections institutions  
14 have become a high cost system that has little to do with deterring  
15 crime. Attention must be directed towards implementing a long-range  
16 corrections strategy that focuses on inmate responsibility through  
17 intensive work ethic training that has as its goals, the establishment  
18 of character-building work ethics, measurable work habits and  
19 experience, real-world job and vocational training, direct experience

1 for the inmate in managing and organizing his or her life, and the  
2 opportunity and responsibility to pay back to society and the victims  
3 of his or her criminal acts.

4 The legislature finds that many offenders lack basic life skills  
5 and have been largely unaffected by traditional correctional  
6 philosophies and programs. The opportunity for offenders to learn the  
7 structure and values necessary to be productive, working, and  
8 contributing members of society need to be fully emphasized and  
9 successfully taught in our corrections institutions. In addition, many  
10 first-time offenders who enter the prison system learn more about how  
11 to be criminals than the important qualities, values, and skills needed  
12 to successfully adapt to a life without crime.

13 The legislature finds that the concept of a work ethic boot camp  
14 that requires the offender to complete an appropriate and balanced  
15 combination of highly structured and goal-oriented work programs such  
16 as correctional industries based work camps and/or class I and class II  
17 work projects, drug rehabilitation, and intensive life management work  
18 ethic training, can successfully reduce offender recidivism and lower  
19 the overall cost of incarceration.

20 The legislature further finds that longitudinal data on recidivism  
21 rates for offenders who are assigned to a work ethic boot camp needs to  
22 be maintained and analyzed. This data will provide a method for  
23 assessing whether the work ethic boot camp is meeting its overall goals  
24 and can further enable program modifications to be periodically  
25 implemented. To the extent possible, the data collected should be  
26 shared with the appropriate university-based policy institutes to  
27 further assist in the analysis of the progress of this innovative  
28 incarceration option.

29 It is the purpose and intent of sections 1 through 6 of this act to  
30 implement a regimented work ethic boot camp that is designed to  
31 directly address the high rate of recidivism, reduce upwardly spiraling  
32 prison costs, preserve scarce and high cost prison space for our most  
33 deserving dangerous offenders, and provide judges with a tough and  
34 sound alternative to traditional incarceration without compromising  
35 public safety.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires  
37 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout sections 1  
38 through 6 of this act.

1 (1) "Department" means the department of corrections.

2 (2) "Secretary" means the secretary of corrections.

3 (3) "Work ethic boot camp" means a measured results-oriented  
4 alternative incarceration program designed to reduce recidivism and  
5 lower the cost of corrections by requiring offenders to complete a  
6 comprehensive array of real-world job and vocational experiences,  
7 character-building work ethics training, life management skills  
8 development, drug rehabilitation, literacy training, and basic adult  
9 education. The objectives of the program are to deter offenders from  
10 committing additional crimes by requiring them to experience the  
11 sobering realities of prison life and simultaneously complete an  
12 intense range of character and skill building challenges.

13 (4) "Incarceration program" means the work ethic boot camp.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department of corrections shall  
15 establish one work ethic boot camp. The secretary shall locate the  
16 incarceration program within an already existing department compound or  
17 facility, or in a facility that is scheduled to come on line within the  
18 initial implementation date outlined in this section. The facility  
19 selected for an incarceration program shall appropriately accommodate  
20 the logistical and cost-effective objectives contained in sections 1  
21 through 6 of this act without increasing the risk of jeopardizing  
22 public safety. The department shall be ready to assign inmates to the  
23 incarceration program one hundred twenty days after the effective date  
24 of this act. The department shall develop all aspects of the  
25 incarceration program including, but not limited to, program standards,  
26 conduct standards, educational components, special offender incentives,  
27 drug rehabilitation program parameters, individual and team work goals,  
28 and the successful completion of the incarceration program granted to  
29 the offender based on successful attendance, participation, and  
30 performance as defined by the secretary.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Offenders shall be recommended for  
32 consideration to participate in the incarceration program upon the time  
33 of their sentencing by the sentencing judge. The court shall send a  
34 copy of the offender's sentence to the department within five working  
35 days of sentencing. The department shall arrange to take custody of  
36 the offender within its established customary time frame after the  
37 documents have been provided to the department by the court. The

1 department shall then be responsible for determining if the offender is  
2 eligible for the incarceration program based on the following criteria:

3 (a) The offender is between the ages of eighteen and twenty-eight  
4 years.

5 (b) The offender has no known physical or mental impairments that  
6 would prevent his or her ability to perform the challenging physical  
7 and mental activities associated with this program.

8 (c) The offender is not convicted of any sex offenses or violent  
9 offenses and has been determined by the department not to be at risk  
10 for committing such offenses, based on his or her prior criminal  
11 history.

12 (d) The offender agrees to and signs the terms and conditions of  
13 the program designated by the secretary.

14 The department shall develop written incarceration program offender  
15 eligibility criteria and make the information available to the  
16 appropriate sentencing courts.

17 (2) The secretary shall prescribe the form and content of the  
18 agreement to be signed by the eligible offender before entering the  
19 incarceration program.

20 (3) On successful completion of the incarceration program the  
21 secretary shall allow the supervised placement of the inmate pursuant  
22 to subsection (7) of this section.

23 (4) The department may place inmates eligible for the work ethic  
24 camp incarceration program in program beds that have not been utilized  
25 by the court. The secretary shall ensure that court-referred inmates  
26 receive priority placement in the program.

27 (5) An inmate who fails to complete the incarceration program, who  
28 is administratively terminated from the incarceration program, or who  
29 otherwise violates any conditions of supervision, as defined by the  
30 department, shall be reclassified to serve the unexpired term of his or  
31 her sentence as ordered by the sentencing court.

32 (6) An inmate who is sentenced or transferred to the incarceration  
33 program shall serve the minimal number of days as defined by the  
34 department to be considered a successful graduate of the incarceration  
35 program.

36 (7) On successful completion of the incarceration program, an  
37 inmate may be placed, and remain until the expiration of the sentence  
38 imposed in a department work release program or in a department  
39 community supervisory program which may initially include electronic

1 monitoring followed by appropriate levels of supervision as ordered by  
2 the court or as defined by the department. The inmate remains eligible  
3 for all types of available release mechanisms for which the offender  
4 can qualify and shall accrue earned early release credits until the  
5 expirations of his or her sentence.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The department work ethic program facility  
7 shall employ one hundred percent of all inmates. The employment  
8 options available for inmates shall include meaningful work  
9 opportunities that provide the offender with real-world skills that  
10 help the offender find employment when he or she successfully completes  
11 the incarceration program. The department shall include in the  
12 incarceration program, without limitation, class I, class II, and class  
13 IV correctional programs. No more than thirty-five percent of the  
14 total inmate population in the facility shall be employed in class III  
15 correctional industries programs in the first year and thereafter ten  
16 percent less per year until a maximum of ten percent of the inmates are  
17 working in this employment class. In addition, work options shall also  
18 include department-supervised work crews as defined by the department.  
19 These work crews shall have the ability to work on public roads  
20 conducting litter control, minor emergency repair or other minor tasks  
21 that do not negatively impact employment opportunities for people with  
22 developmental disabilities contracted through the operation of  
23 sheltered workshops as defined in RCW 82.04.385, or have a negative  
24 impact on the local labor market or local business community as  
25 assessed by the department correctional industries advisory board of  
26 directors. The department shall establish, to the extent possible,  
27 work ethic work programs that will positively impact our natural  
28 environment such as, but not limited to, recycling programs and minor  
29 environmental cleanup programs.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The incarceration program established in  
31 sections 1 through 6 of this act shall be considered a pilot  
32 alternative incarceration program and remain in effect until July 1,  
33 1998. The department and the office of financial management shall  
34 monitor and analyze the effectiveness of the incarceration program and  
35 complete a final outcome evaluation study by January 15, 1998. Based  
36 on the findings of this final outcome evaluation study, the legislature  
37 may extend the program. The study shall include: The recidivism rates

1 of successful program graduates, analysis of the overall program costs,  
2 the ability to maintain public safety, and any other pertinent data  
3 established by the department. The department may recommend  
4 termination of the incarceration program if the secretary finds that  
5 the program is not meeting and will not meet the established recidivism  
6 and cost goals of the program.

7 The department of corrections shall seek the availability of  
8 federal funds for the planning, implementation, evaluation, and  
9 training of staff for boot camp, substance abuse, and offender  
10 education programs.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act are each  
12 added to chapter 72.09 RCW.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
14 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
15 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
16 effect July 1, 1993.

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