

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia Washington

## BilAnalysis

Bill No. HB 1360

State patrol officers engage in private employment  
Brief title

Public Arg: 2/5/97

Reps. K. Schmidt/Scott/Zellinsky  
Sponsor

Staff Contact B. Mauldin  
Comm. on Govt. Admin.  
Phone: 786-7093

### **BACKGROUND:**

No state employee or officer may use any person's money, or property under his or her official direction for private benefit or gain for the employee officer or any other person. In the case of Washington State Patrol officers, this property includes uniforms, automobiles, and weapons. An ethics board may adopt rules to allow occasional exceptions to this prohibition.

There is no express authority for or prohibition against Washington State Patrol officers engaging in off-duty law enforcement employment for private benefit.

### **SUMMARY**

Washington State Patrol officers may engage in private off-duty law enforcement employment. The executive ethics board adopts rules providing for this type of private employment. The ethics board is authorized to allow state patrol officers to use person's money, or property under their official direction in the course of private law enforcement employment, as long as it does not interfere with their performance of public duties. These rules allow long-term private employment under the conditions set by the executive ethics board.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Not requested.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill passed.