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HOUSE BILL 2657

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Quall and O'Brien

Read first time 01/19/98. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to sentencing requirements for nonviolent offenders  
2 who violate drug laws; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislative committee on criminal  
5 sentencing options available for drug offenders is created.

6 The purpose of the committee is to review adult criminal justice  
7 sentencing options available for drug offenders who possess or sell  
8 controlled substances and offenders who may be chemically dependent.

9 In conducting the review, the committee must meet with  
10 representatives from local law enforcement agencies, judges, defense  
11 attorneys, prosecutors, representatives from the department of  
12 corrections, representatives from the juvenile rehabilitation  
13 administration, and representatives from the state and county drug and  
14 alcohol substance abuse and treatment programs, and the committee shall  
15 solicit the views and technical assistance of substance abuse experts  
16 in corrections disciplines.

17 (2) The committee shall consist of twelve members, appointed in the  
18 following manner:

1 (a) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint six  
2 members to the committee as follows:

3 Three members from each of the caucuses of the house of  
4 representatives, of whom three members must be from the house of  
5 representatives committee on law and justice and three members must be  
6 from the house of representatives committee on criminal justice and  
7 corrections.

8 (b) The president of the senate shall appoint six members of the  
9 committee as follows:

10 Three members from each of the caucuses of the senate, of whom  
11 three members must be from the senate law and justice committee and  
12 three members must be from the senate human services and corrections  
13 committee.

14 The members of the committee shall elect cochairs, one who is a  
15 member of the house of representatives and one who is a member of the  
16 senate.

17 Staff support for the committee shall be provided by the office of  
18 program research in the house of representatives and by senate  
19 committee services in the senate.

20 (3) The committee's final report and recommendations for  
21 legislation shall be submitted to the appropriate committees of the  
22 house of representatives and the senate by December 31, 1998.

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