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SENATE BILL 5599

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators McCaslin and Haugen; by request of Attorney General

Read first time 02/03/97. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to training for state investigators; creating a new  
2 section; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that there is a  
5 need for more coordinated and uniform training and protocols for state  
6 investigators. State investigators are employed by numerous state  
7 agencies and separately elected offices. Currently there is minimal  
8 training on policies and procedures for investigations, enforcement,  
9 and scope of duties and responsibilities. It is the intent of the  
10 legislature to commission a study group to develop mandatory training,  
11 policies, and procedures for state investigators.

12 (2) The study group shall focus on state investigators in the  
13 following agencies: Attorney general's office; auditor's office;  
14 department of corrections; department of health; department of labor  
15 and industries; department of licensing; department of revenue; liquor  
16 control board; public disclosure commission; and Washington state  
17 patrol.

18 (3) The study group shall consist of: The attorney general; chief  
19 of the state patrol; state auditor; one legislator from each caucus of

1 the senate and house of representatives, as appointed by leaders of the  
2 caucuses; a representative from the governor's office; two  
3 representatives of state agencies appointed by the governor; a  
4 representative appointed by the Washington association of prosecuting  
5 attorneys; a representative appointed by the Washington association of  
6 sheriffs and police chiefs; and a representative appointed by the  
7 criminal justice program at Washington State University. The study  
8 group shall be cochaired by the attorney general and the chief of the  
9 state patrol.

10 (4) The study group shall:

11 (a) Develop minimum ongoing training requirements for state  
12 investigators. Training must include education in civil investigations  
13 and recognition of crimes for transfer to appropriate law enforcement  
14 agencies;

15 (b) Evaluate current training requirements, policies, and  
16 procedures for state investigators;

17 (c) Recommend who will provide training, how it will be done, and  
18 minimal training requirements;

19 (d) Recommend basic policies and procedures for state  
20 investigators;

21 (e) Develop cost estimates for mandatory training;

22 (f) Make recommendations on the scope of duties and  
23 responsibilities for state investigators; and

24 (g) Include other issues related to state investigators, as desired  
25 by the study group.

26 (5) The study group shall deliver its recommendations to the  
27 legislature by December 1, 1997.

28 (6) This section shall expire June 1, 1998.

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