
SENATE BILL 5656

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Senators Zarelli, Kline, Hargrove, Stevens, McCaslin, Oke and Goings

Read first time 02/05/97. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to the crime of voyeurism; reenacting and amending
2 RCW 9A.04.080; adding a new section to chapter 9A.44 RCW; and
3 prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.44 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) As used in this section:

8 (a) "Photographs" or "films" means the making of a photograph,
9 motion picture film, videotape, or any other recording or transmission
10 of the image of a person;

11 (b) "Place where he or she would have a reasonable expectation of
12 privacy" means:

13 (i) A place where a reasonable person would believe that he or she
14 could disrobe in privacy, without being concerned that his or her
15 undressing was being photographed or filmed by another; or

16 (ii) A place where one may reasonably expect to be safe from casual
17 or hostile intrusion or surveillance, but not a place to which the
18 public or a substantial group of the public has access;

1 (c) "Surveillance" means secret observation of the activities of
2 another person for the purpose of spying upon and invading the privacy
3 of the person;

4 (d) "Views" means the looking upon of another person, with the
5 unaided eye or with a device designed or intended to improve visual
6 acuity.

7 (2) A person commits the crime of voyeurism if:

8 (a) For the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of
9 any person, he or she knowingly views, photographs, or films another
10 person, without that person's knowledge and consent, while the person
11 being viewed, photographed, or filmed is in a place where he or she
12 would have a reasonable expectation of privacy; or

13 (b) The person knowingly views, photographs, or films another
14 person, without that person's knowledge and consent while the person
15 being viewed, photographed, or filmed is inside his or her private
16 residence.

17 (3) Voyeurism is a gross misdemeanor.

18 (4) This section does not apply to:

19 (a) Viewing, photographing, or filming by law enforcement officers
20 during a lawful criminal investigation;

21 (b) Viewing, photographing, or filming by law enforcement officers
22 or by personnel of the department of corrections or of a local jail or
23 correctional facility for security purposes or during investigation of
24 alleged misconduct by a person in the custody of the department of
25 corrections or the local jail or correctional facility; or

26 (c) Viewing, photographing, or filming by a licensed private
27 investigator during a lawful investigation.

28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 9A.04.080 and 1995 c 287 s 5 and 1995 c 17 s 1 are
29 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

30 (1) Prosecutions for criminal offenses shall not be commenced after
31 the periods prescribed in this section.

32 (a) The following offenses may be prosecuted at any time after
33 their commission:

34 (i) Murder;

35 (ii) Homicide by abuse;

36 (iii) Arson if a death results.

37 (b) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than ten
38 years after their commission:

1 (i) Any felony committed by a public officer if the commission is
2 in connection with the duties of his or her office or constitutes a
3 breach of his or her public duty or a violation of the oath of office;

4 (ii) Arson if no death results; or

5 (iii) Violations of RCW 9A.44.040 or 9A.44.050 if the rape is
6 reported to a law enforcement agency within one year of its commission;
7 except that if the victim is under fourteen years of age when the rape
8 is committed and the rape is reported to a law enforcement agency
9 within one year of its commission, the violation may be prosecuted up
10 to three years after the victim's eighteenth birthday or up to ten
11 years after the rape's commission, whichever is later. If a violation
12 of RCW 9A.44.040 or 9A.44.050 is not reported within one year, the rape
13 may not be prosecuted: (A) More than three years after its commission
14 if the violation was committed against a victim fourteen years of age
15 or older; or (B) more than three years after the victim's eighteenth
16 birthday or more than seven years after the rape's commission,
17 whichever is later, if the violation was committed against a victim
18 under fourteen years of age.

19 (c) Violations of the following statutes shall not be prosecuted
20 more than three years after the victim's eighteenth birthday or more
21 than seven years after their commission, whichever is later: RCW
22 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, 9A.44.070, 9A.44.080,
23 9A.44.100(1)(b), or 9A.64.020.

24 (d) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than six
25 years after their commission: Violations of RCW 9A.82.060 or
26 9A.82.080.

27 (e) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than five
28 years after their commission: Any class C felony under chapter 74.09,
29 82.36, or 82.38 RCW.

30 (f) Bigamy shall not be prosecuted more than three years after the
31 time specified in RCW 9A.64.010.

32 (g) No other felony may be prosecuted more than three years after
33 its commission.

34 (h) No gross misdemeanor may be prosecuted more than two years
35 after its commission; except that in a prosecution under section 1 of
36 this act, if the person who was viewed, photographed, or filmed did not
37 realize at the time that he or she was being viewed, photographed, or
38 filmed, the prosecution must be commenced within two years of the time

1 the person who was viewed or in the photograph or film first learns
2 that he or she was viewed, photographed, or filmed.

3 (i) No misdemeanor may be prosecuted more than one year after its
4 commission.

5 (2) The periods of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this
6 section do not run during any time when the person charged is not
7 usually and publicly resident within this state.

8 (3) If, before the end of a period of limitation prescribed in
9 subsection (1) of this section, an indictment has been found or a
10 complaint or an information has been filed, and the indictment,
11 complaint, or information is set aside, then the period of limitation
12 is extended by a period equal to the length of time from the finding or
13 filing to the setting aside.

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