

5706

Sponsor(s): Senators Long, Hargrove and Franklin

Brief Title: Changing provisions relating to sentencing of juvenile offenders.

SB 5706 - DIGEST

Declares the intent of this act is to accomplish the following goals: (1) Reduce recidivism among juvenile offenders;

(2) reduce the number and rate of juvenile offenses;

(3) make clear to juvenile offenders that punishment for offenses will be certain and that sentences will increase with repeated offenses;

(4) retain appropriate distinctions between juvenile and adult offenders while eliminating inappropriate variances in sentencing between the adult and juvenile systems; and

(5) reduce the complexity of juvenile sentencing.

Declares the intent of this act is to bring about planned, long-range systemic improvements to the juvenile justice system and public safety and is not intended to be an immediate solution to all concerns about juvenile crime. The legislature recognizes the importance of evaluations and outcome measurements of programs serving juvenile offenders in order to ensure cost-effective use of public funds.

Repeals RCW 13.40.025, 13.40.0354, and 13.40.0357.

Makes appropriations to carry out the purposes of the act.