

---

HOUSE BILL 2370

---

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Lovick, Ballasiotes, O'Brien, Kenney, Dunshee, Tokuda, Reardon, Edwards, Sullivan, Stensen, Kagi, Conway, Kastama and Scott

Read first time 01/11/2000. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to a law enforcement study; adding a new section to  
2 chapter 39.34 RCW; creating a new section; making an appropriation; and  
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the growth  
6 management act, chapter 36.70A RCW, has had a profound effect on law  
7 enforcement in counties with significant urban centers and suburban  
8 growth in Washington. Incorporations and annexations have caused  
9 cities, both small and large, to consider their own municipal police  
10 departments. Furthermore, the legislature recognizes that cities,  
11 counties, and the Washington state patrol have limited resources to  
12 support and maintain necessary public safety services.

13 In the absence of county-wide law enforcement needs and services  
14 analysis, some law enforcement agencies have developed special unit  
15 capabilities that may need coordination with other cities' law  
16 enforcement agencies and the county sheriff. The legislature also  
17 finds that as a result there may be differences in public safety  
18 standards in Washington where there is either duplication of law  
19 enforcement service or an absence of available specialty services

1 increasing the possibility of municipal liability and risk, and  
2 inefficient and/or unnecessary use of public safety funds. Recognizing  
3 that coordinated law enforcement and basic public safety service  
4 standards on a county-wide basis is in the best interests of the  
5 citizens of Washington, the legislature therefore intends with this act  
6 to authorize a study of law enforcement costs, expenditures, services,  
7 cooperative arrangements, and service delivery models for counties with  
8 a population of over one hundred fifty thousand. This study shall be  
9 known as the regional services study, and its goal is to produce  
10 implementable recommendations for cost-effective, collaborative law  
11 enforcement service delivery partnerships.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 39.34 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall  
15 conduct a study of counties with populations over one hundred fifty  
16 thousand. The study shall be of the total costs and expenditures for  
17 law enforcement for the county, and cities within the county. The  
18 focus of the study shall include recommendations for law enforcement  
19 jurisdictions, Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs  
20 actions, and the legislature. The study shall also:

21 (a) Research, compile, and analyze data sufficient to provide a  
22 comprehensive analysis of the costs and total expenditures for law  
23 enforcement. These costs include but are not limited to special  
24 services, such as but not limited to: SWAT teams, bomb disposal units,  
25 air support, marine units, hostage negotiation teams, homicide  
26 investigation units, drug units, canine units, arson investigation  
27 teams, computer fraud and forensics units, domestic violence and  
28 special assault units, and gang and youth violence units. The study  
29 should distinguish where there are duplications and gaps in service  
30 delivery;

31 (b) Obtain data from all local governments on the types of costs  
32 identified in (a) of this subsection. This data will be compiled and  
33 analyzed by the agency or organization commissioned to conduct the  
34 study for each county; and

35 (c) Obtain data from those counties and law enforcement agencies  
36 where master interlocal agreements, joint specialty service units, and  
37 other cooperative arrangements have been developed between law

1 enforcement agencies to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and  
2 ensured quality of specialty law enforcement services.

3 The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall  
4 commence the study by June 1, 2000, and complete the study by January  
5 1, 2001. The final report shall be distributed to the Washington  
6 association of sheriffs and police chiefs, and to the appropriate  
7 standing committee by January 30, 2001.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of three hundred thousand dollars,  
9 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the  
10 general fund to the Washington association of sheriffs and police  
11 chiefs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, for the purposes of  
12 this act.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires June 30, 2001.

--- END ---