
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2512

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By House Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections (originally sponsored by Representatives Ballasiotes, Lovick, O'Brien, Haigh and Hurst; by request of Department of Corrections)

Read first time 02/04/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to criminal investigations and information
2 gathering within department of corrections facilities; adding a new
3 section to chapter 72.09 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an
4 emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is a need
7 for the department of corrections to establish an investigations unit
8 to investigate and prevent crimes within department of corrections
9 facilities and to facilitate sharing and receiving of information with
10 other criminal justice agencies.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 72.09 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 (1) There is hereby created in the department of corrections a
14 criminal investigations unit.

15 (2) The secretary shall commission investigators and such
16 commission shall be considered that of a limited authority Washington
17 peace officer pursuant to RCW 10.93.020. This commission shall be
18 limited to arrest and detention in state correctional institutions as

1 defined in RCW 9.94.049. Commission as an investigator does not
2 qualify the investigator as a law enforcement officer for the purposes
3 of membership in the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
4 retirement system under chapter 41.26 RCW.

5 (3) The criminal investigations unit is authorized to share with
6 other criminal justice agencies criminal history record information and
7 other criminal justice information that can be lawfully disseminated to
8 a criminal justice agency and may receive such information from other
9 criminal justice agencies. The criminal investigations unit shall be
10 considered a law enforcement agency authorized to receive investigative
11 and intelligence information for the purposes of RCW 43.43.854 and
12 43.43.856.

13 (4) The criminal investigations unit shall, in cooperation with
14 local law enforcement, conduct investigations for the purposes of
15 enforcing criminal laws, conduct intelligence gathering within
16 department facilities, and provide assistance to other criminal justice
17 agencies.

18 (5) The criminal investigations unit shall:

19 (a) Coordinate with other criminal justice agencies in the state
20 concerning violations of the criminal laws within department
21 facilities;

22 (b) Provide a communications network capable of interconnecting all
23 offices and investigators of the unit.

24 (6) In order to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of state
25 resources, the criminal investigations unit shall, where feasible, use
26 existing facilities and systems.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
28 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
29 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
30 immediately.

--- END ---