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**SENATE BILL 6337**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Hargrove, Long, Sheahan, Costa, Winsley and Oke; by request of Department of Corrections

Read first time 01/13/2000. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

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

1 limited to arrest and detention in state correctional institutions as  
2 defined in RCW 9.94.049.

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

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

16 (5) The criminal investigations unit shall:

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

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

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

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

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