
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6369

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on State & Local Government (originally sponsored by Senators Patterson, McCaslin, Haugen, Long, Costa, Fairley, Eide, Heavey, Wojahn, Prentice, Brown and Winsley)

Read first time 02/04/2000.

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

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

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

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

1 public safety funds. Recognizing that coordinated law enforcement and
2 basic public safety service standards on a county-wide basis is in the
3 best interests of the citizens of Washington, the legislature therefore
4 intends with this act to authorize a study of law enforcement costs,
5 expenditures, services, cooperative arrangements, and service delivery
6 models for counties with over one hundred fifty thousand population.
7 The goal of the regional services study is to produce implementable
8 recommendations for cost-effective, collaborative law enforcement
9 service delivery partnerships.

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

12 (1) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall
13 conduct a study of the total costs and expenditures for law enforcement
14 for both counties and cities within the county for counties with
15 populations over one hundred fifty thousand. In conducting the study
16 the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall
17 collaborate with the legislative evaluation and accountability program
18 committee and the state auditor's office. Collaboration shall take
19 advantage of work underway by the legislative evaluation and
20 accountability program committee and the state auditor's office
21 analyzing distribution of law enforcement costs between county, city,
22 and state governments, and developing contextual information to add
23 perspective to the cost data. The focus of the study:

24 (a) Would include recommendations for law enforcement
25 jurisdictions, Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs
26 actions, and the legislature;

27 (b) Shall be to research, compile, and analyze data sufficient to
28 provide a comprehensive analysis of the costs and total expenditures
29 for law enforcement. These costs include but are not limited to
30 special services, defined as but not limited to: SWAT teams, bomb
31 disposal units, air support, marine units, hostage negotiation teams,
32 homicide investigation units, drug units, canine units, arson
33 investigation teams, computer fraud and forensics units, domestic
34 violence and special assault units, and gang and youth violence units.
35 The study should distinguish where there are duplications and gaps in
36 service delivery;

37 (c) Shall be to obtain data from all local governments on the types
38 of costs identified in (b) of this subsection. This data will be

1 compiled and analyzed by the agency or organization commissioned to
2 conduct the study for each county;

3 (d) Shall be to obtain data from those counties and law enforcement
4 agencies where master interlocal agreements, joint specialty service
5 units, and other cooperative arrangements have been developed between
6 law enforcement agencies to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and
7 ensured quality of specialty law enforcement services.

8 (2) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall
9 commence the study no later than July 1, 2000, and complete the study
10 no later than January 1, 2001. The final report shall be distributed
11 to the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs and to the
12 appropriate standing committee no later than January 30, 2001.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of two hundred fifty thousand
14 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from
15 the general fund to the Washington association of sheriffs and police
16 chiefs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, to carry out the
17 purposes of this act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
19 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
20 June 30, 2000, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
21 void.

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