
SENATE BILL 5697

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Patterson and Winsley; by request of Washington State Patrol

Read first time 01/31/2001. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to missing persons record retention policies; and
2 amending RCW 68.50.320.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 68.50.320 and 1984 c 17 s 18 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 When a person reported missing has not been found within thirty
7 days of the report, the sheriff, chief of police, county coroner or
8 county medical examiner, or other law enforcement authority initiating
9 and conducting the investigation for the missing person shall ask the
10 missing person's family or next of kin to give written consent to
11 contact the dentist or dentists of the missing person and request the
12 person's dental records.

13 When a person reported missing has not been found within thirty
14 days, the sheriff, chief of police, or other law enforcement authority
15 initiating and conducting the investigation for the missing person
16 shall confer with the county coroner or medical examiner prior to the
17 preparation of a missing person's report. After conferring with the
18 coroner or medical examiner, the sheriff, chief of police, or other law
19 enforcement authority shall submit a missing person's report and the

1 dental records received under this section to the dental identification
2 system of the state patrol identification and criminal history section
3 on forms supplied by the state patrol for such purpose.

4 When a person reported missing has been found, the sheriff, chief
5 of police, coroner or medical examiner, or other law enforcement
6 authority shall report such information to the state patrol. ((The
7 dental identification system shall then erase all records with respect
8 to such person.))

9 The dental identification system shall maintain a file of
10 information regarding persons reported to it as missing ((and who have
11 not been reported found)). The file shall contain the information
12 referred to in this section and such other information as the state
13 patrol finds relevant to assist in the location of a missing person.

14 The files of the dental identification system shall, upon request,
15 be made available to law enforcement agencies attempting to locate
16 missing persons.

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