

2314

Sponsor(s): Representatives Hurst, Kessler, Berkey, Sullivan, Dunshee, Lovick, Kenney, Edwards, Rockefeller, Conway, Lisk, Buck, D. Schmidt, Alexander, Kirby, Haigh, Fromhold, O'Brien and Esser; by request of Governor Locke and Attorney General

Brief Description: Increasing penalties for terrorism offenses.

HB 2314 - DIGEST

Finds that the events of September 11, 2001, have focused our nation's attention on the importance of preparedness in preventing, investigating, and prosecuting acts of terrorism against its citizens.

Finds that, to be effective, this effort requires a partnership between the federal and state and local governments. In furtherance of this partnership, it is the intent to strengthen the laws of the state of Washington to better protect the health and safety of Washington state and its residents from acts of terrorism.

Declares an intent that this act be interpreted to provide the greatest measure of protection and safety for the people of this state and to preserve and protect their constitutional rights, including the right to petition their governments and to exercise their rights under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.