
HOUSE BILL 1609

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives O'Brien and Buck; by request of Sentencing Guidelines Commission

Read first time 02/03/2003. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to pilot regional correctional facilities; and
2 creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that numerous changes
5 to the sentencing reform act, chapter 9.94A RCW, as reported by the
6 sentencing guidelines commission, have resulted in increases in the
7 length of local jail and state prison sentences and in the number of
8 local jail and state prison inmates. The intent of the sentencing
9 reform act, particularly provisions regarding protection of the public,
10 reduction of the risk of reoffense, and making frugal use of state and
11 local government resources, would best be served, in many instances, by
12 local and state corrections authorities sharing resources and
13 jurisdiction over regional correctional facilities.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Not later than December 31, 2003, the
15 sentencing guidelines commission shall present to the legislature a
16 plan for establishing pilot regional correctional facilities.

17 (2) The plan for establishing pilot regional correctional
18 facilities must include, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1 (a) A plan for increasing the space availability in local and
2 county jails for pretrial detainees;
- 3 (b) An efficient and effective plan for joint use of total
4 confinement beds by local and state government;
- 5 (c) A description of proposed shared and/or revised jurisdiction
6 and operational responsibility, including the possibility of
7 establishing a regional corrections authority;
- 8 (d) A summary of proposed changes to the criminal code reflecting
9 revised housing jurisdiction;
- 10 (e) A description of the inmate population eligible for placement
11 in pilot regional correctional facilities;
- 12 (f) A review of treatment services and programs intended to meet
13 the needs of special populations including drug and substance abuse,
14 mental health, and special medical needs;
- 15 (g) An estimate of potential benefits to local and county jail
16 operators and to the state, which could be realized by implementation
17 of pilot programs;
- 18 (h) A proposed method for identifying pilot regional correctional
19 facility sites;
- 20 (i) A methodology for evaluating the costs benefit of operation of
21 pilot facilities; and
- 22 (j) Recommendations for shared funding of the construction and
23 operation cost of the facilities from state and local resources.

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