
SENATE BILL 5165

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Kline, McCaslin and Franklin

Read first time 01/16/2003. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to vehicular pursuit by law enforcement officers;
2 adding new sections to chapter 43.101 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends to improve the
5 safety of law enforcement officers and the public by providing
6 consistent education and training for officers in the matter of vehicle
7 pursuit. The legislature recognizes there are a multitude of factors
8 which enter into the determination of pursuit and intends that the
9 criminal justice training commission be given the responsibility of
10 identifying those factors and developing appropriate standards for
11 training of law enforcement officers in this area.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101 RCW
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) By December 1, 2003, the Washington state criminal justice
15 training commission, the Washington state patrol, the Washington
16 association of sheriffs and police chiefs, and organizations
17 representing state and local law enforcement officers shall develop a
18 written model policy on vehicular pursuits.

1 (2) The model policy must meet all of the following minimum
2 standards:

3 (a) Provide for supervisory control, if available, of the pursuit;

4 (b) Provide procedures for designating the primary pursuit vehicle
5 and for determining the total number of vehicles to be permitted to
6 participate at one time in the pursuit;

7 (c) Provide procedures for coordinating operations with other
8 jurisdictions; and

9 (d) Provide guidelines for determining when the interests of public
10 safety and effective law enforcement justify a vehicular pursuit and
11 when a vehicular pursuit should not be initiated or should be
12 terminated.

13 (3) By June 1, 2004, every state, county, and municipal law
14 enforcement agency shall adopt and implement a written vehicular
15 pursuit policy. The policy adopted may, but need not, be the model
16 policy developed under subsections (1) and (2) of this section.
17 However, any policy adopted must address the minimum requirements
18 specified in subsection (2) of this section.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) By June 30, 2006, every full-time law enforcement officer
22 employed by a state, county, or municipal law enforcement agency shall
23 have been trained on vehicular pursuits. Every new full-time law
24 enforcement officer employed by a state, county, or municipal law
25 enforcement agency after June 30, 2006, also shall be trained, within
26 six months of employment, on vehicular pursuits.

27 (2) Nothing in this act requires training on vehicular pursuit of
28 any law enforcement officer who is employed in a state, county, or city
29 law enforcement agency on the effective date of this act beyond that
30 which he or she has received prior to the effective date of this act.

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