
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6308

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Carrell, Stevens, Regala, Schoesler, Schmidt, Oke and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a joint select committee on offenders
2 programs, sentencing, and supervision; creating new sections; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that "good time"
6 should be productive time, especially for those incarcerated in
7 Washington's criminal justice facilities. The legislature finds that
8 it is important to the safety of the public and to rehabilitation of
9 offenders that changes be considered to other programs offered in
10 prisons and in the community. The legislature further finds that
11 reforms to sentencing and supervision of offenders returning to the
12 community may enhance public safety, lower recidivism, and reduce crime
13 and victimization. Therefore, the legislature intends to create a
14 joint select committee on offenders programs, sentencing, and
15 supervision to provide findings and recommendations for the 2007
16 legislative session.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A joint select committee on offenders
18 programs, sentencing, and supervision is established.

1 (1) The joint select committee shall consist of the following
2 persons:

3 (a) One member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate,
4 appointed by the president of the senate, with at least one member
5 being a member of the senate human services and corrections committee;

6 (b) One member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house
7 of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
8 representatives, with at least one member being a member of the house
9 criminal justice and corrections committee;

10 (c) One member appointed by the governor's office;

11 (d) The attorney general, or the attorney general's designee;

12 (e) The secretary of corrections, or the secretary's designee, and
13 additional corrections representatives as the secretary of corrections
14 deems appropriate;

15 (f) A representative of the superior court judges association;

16 (g) Three members, one who provides mental health treatment, one
17 who provides alcohol and substance abuse counseling, and one who
18 provides medical assistance services to offenders. Two of the members
19 shall be from the department of social and health services and one
20 member shall be from an outside service provider designated by the
21 department of social and health services;

22 (h) One member from the Washington state association of counties;

23 (i) One member from the association of Washington cities;

24 (j) Two members representing crime victims, appointed jointly by
25 the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
26 representatives;

27 (k) One member from the Washington association of prosecuting
28 attorneys;

29 (l) One member from the Washington association of criminal defense
30 lawyers;

31 (m) Two faculty members who educate offenders, one of whom educates
32 incarcerated offenders and one who educates released offenders;

33 (n) One member from the Washington federation of state employees
34 representing community corrections officers;

35 (o) One member from the labor organization representing
36 correctional officers who work in adult correctional facilities;

37 (p) One member appointed by the Washington multifamily housing
38 association;

1 (q) Two members representing local law enforcement, with one
2 representing cities and one representing counties;

3 (r) One member who is an ex-offender;

4 (s) One member from the sentencing guidelines commission;

5 (t) One member from a faith-based organization that provides
6 outreach or services to offenders;

7 (u) One member from the association of Washington business;

8 (v) One member from a nonprofit organization providing work force
9 training to released offenders; and

10 (w) A member from the Washington state institute for public policy
11 who conducts research on corrections programs.

12 (2) The committee shall be cochaired by a legislative member from
13 the senate and a legislative member from the house of representatives
14 and shall be elected by the joint select committee.

15 (3) The joint select committee shall review and make
16 recommendations regarding:

17 (a) The type of offender that would benefit most in terms of
18 personal achievement, responsibility, and community safety, by having
19 the opportunity to receive enhanced training and education while in
20 prison;

21 (b) The types of training and educational programs that would
22 provide the greatest return on investment with regard to offender
23 achievement, responsibility, and community;

24 (c) Changes to the sentencing law and policies related to "good
25 time" or early release, that would encourage incarcerated offenders to
26 participate in training and programs that will increase the likelihood
27 that they will be able to support themselves when they leave prison and
28 reduce recidivism;

29 (d) A method for evaluating the return on the investment and
30 determining from front line department of corrections staff and
31 community partners, whether the changes are improving personal
32 responsibility on the part of the offender and reducing crime in the
33 community; and

34 (e) Changes to community supervision that would provide greater
35 safety to the public and incentives for prisons in adhering to
36 treatment, educational goals, and reducing recidivism.

37 (4) The joint select committee shall present a report of its

1 findings and recommendations to the governor and the appropriate
2 committees of the legislature, including any proposed legislation, by
3 November 15, 2006.

4 (5) The joint select committee may, where feasible, consult with
5 individuals from the public and private sector in carrying out its
6 duties under this section.

7 (6) Nonlegislative members of the joint select committee shall
8 serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses
9 as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Legislative members of the
10 joint select committee shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as
11 provided in RCW 44.04.120.

12 (7) The staff from senate committee services and the office of
13 program research of the house of representatives shall provide support
14 to the joint select committee.

15 (8) This section expires December 1, 2006.

--- END ---