

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 2786

As Reported By Senate Committee On:
Human Services & Corrections, February 22, 2008

Title: An act relating to including level I offenders who fail to maintain registration as required by RCW 9A.44.130 to the statewide notification web site.

Brief Description: Including level I offenders who fail to maintain registration as required by RCW 9A.44.130 to the statewide notification web site.

Sponsors: Representatives Kelley, Hurst, Lantz, Upthegrove, Pearson, Morrell, Priest, Kenney, Haler, Williams, Loomis, Smith, Bailey, Kristiansen, McCune, Simpson and VanDeWege; by request of Governor Gregoire.

Brief History: Passed House: 2/12/08, 97-0.

Committee Activity: Human Services & Corrections: 2/22/08 [DPA].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS

Majority Report: Do pass as amended.

Signed by Senators Hargrove, Chair; Regala, Vice Chair; Stevens, Ranking Minority Member; Brandland and Carrell.

Staff: Jennifer Strus (786-7316)

Background: Under the Community Protection Act of 1990, a sex or kidnaping offender is required to register with the county sheriff of the county in which the offender resides. The offender must provide a variety of information upon registration including name, complete residential address, date and place of birth, place of employment, crime of conviction, date and place of conviction, aliases, Social Security number, photograph, and finger prints. Counties submit the information to the Washington State Patrol (WSP) for inclusion in the statewide sex offender registry.

Law enforcement agencies are authorized to release information regarding registered sex offenders based on the offenders' risk level. The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) operates a web site that contains information on all registered kidnaping offenders and all registered level II and III sex offenders. The web site is capable of showing the location of the sex offender on a map and is searchable by county, city, zip code, last name, type of conviction, and address by hundred block. Level I sex offenders (those considered least likely to reoffend) are listed in the statewide sex offender registry maintained by WSP but are not available on the public web site maintained by WASPC.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill (Recommended Amendments): WASPC must include on its public web site, level I sex offenders during the time they are out of compliance with registration requirements.

EFFECT OF CHANGES MADE BY HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE (Recommended Amendments): Level I sex offenders are included on the WASPC site during the time they are out of compliance with sex offender registration requirements.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Original Bill and Recommended Amendments:
PRO: This bill is one of the recommendations made by the Governor's Sex Offender Task Force this fall. The striking amendment language is clearer than the original language and should be added.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Cheryl Sullivan-Colglazier, DSHS; John Lane, Governor's Policy Office; Don Pierce, WASPC.