

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6548

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Human Services & Corrections, February 3, 2010

Title: An act relating to offenders on parole or probation.

Brief Description: Suspending the parole or probation of an offender who is charged with a new felony offense in certain conditions.

Sponsors: Senators Hargrove, Carrell, Stevens, Kauffman and Roach.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Human Services & Corrections: 2/02/10, 2/03/10 [DPS].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6548 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

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

Staff: Shani Bauer (786-7468)

Background: The Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision is an agreement entered into between the states permitting supervision of offenders across state lines. Each state is bound by the terms of the Compact, which requires a state to supervise an offender if the offender meets certain criteria. The state receiving the offender for supervision must supervise the individual consistent with the supervision of other similar offenders sentenced in the receiving state.

Many offenders received by Washington for supervision are on a parole or probation system. Washington does not have the jurisdiction to revoke an offender's parole or probation if warranted. Applying Washington's unique sentencing laws to an offender on parole or probation can be confusing.

Prior to 1984 Washington had a parole system. There are still offenders in Washington who are on parole or who are in prison and may get out on parole at some point in the future. The parole board (now designated as the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board-ISRB) may take

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a variety of actions when an offender violates the terms of his or her parole, including suspension of the person's parole pending the disposition of new criminal charges.

Summary of Bill (Recommended Substitute): DOC may supervise an offender on supervision under the Interstate Compact who is on parole or probation consistent with the supervision of other offenders in Washington who are on parole. Specifically, if an offender is charged with a new felony offense, under the ISRB or DOC's sanction authority, the offender's parole or probation may be suspended pending disposition of the criminal charges.

EFFECT OF CHANGES MADE BY HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE (Recommended Substitute): The provisions are moved to the statute addressing sanctions for community custody violations to clarify that a decision to suspend the parole of an offender must be made by the ISRB or a DOC hearings officer.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: None.

Persons Testifying: No one.