
SENATE BILL 6188

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senator Carrell

1 AN ACT Relating to the imposition of a minimum bail bond premium
2 fee of ten percent; adding new sections to chapter 18.185 RCW; creating
3 a new section; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that corporate
6 surety bail bond premium fees that fall below ten percent of the
7 penalty amount of the bond to be posted encourage flight and thus make
8 it more likely that a defendant will forfeit the bond and fail to
9 appear in court at the designated time. Accordingly, the legislature
10 intends to create uniformity of law and promote public safety by
11 creating a standard bail bond premium fee throughout the state.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A bail bond agent shall charge and collect
13 for his or her premium, commission, or fee an amount of ten percent of
14 the amount of the corporate surety bail bond posted by him or her.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The director may impose a civil penalty
16 for a violation of this chapter. The civil penalty shall consist of:

1 (a) For a first violation, a written warning and a monetary penalty
2 of one hundred dollars;

3 (b) For a second violation, mandatory suspension of the bail bond
4 agent's license for a maximum of one year and a monetary penalty of one
5 thousand dollars;

6 (c) For a third violation, mandatory revocation of the bail bond
7 agent's license and a monetary penalty of five thousand dollars.

8 (2) At the request of the director, the attorney general may bring
9 an action in the name of the state seeking:

10 (a) Injunctive relief to prevent the bail bond agent from further
11 violation of this chapter;

12 (b) To recover civil penalties imposed under subsection (1) of this
13 section; or

14 (c) To recover attorneys' fees and other enforcement costs and
15 disbursements.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** All revenues derived from any civil
17 penalties assessed under section 3 of this act shall be deposited in
18 the business and professions account, pursuant to RCW 43.24.150(1)(g).

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each
20 added to chapter 18.185 RCW.

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