

SHB 2468 - H AMD 650

By Representative Klippert

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) A work group on preservation of
4 evidence for criminal justice purposes is established to study and make
5 recommendations relating to establishing statewide standards for
6 preserving biological material in felony cases in Washington state.

7 (2) The work group shall consist of the following members:

8 (a) One member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate,
9 appointed by the president of the senate;

10 (b) One member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house
11 of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
12 representatives;

13 (c) The chief of the Washington state patrol or the chief's
14 designee;

15 (d) The executive director of the Washington association of
16 sheriffs and police chiefs or the executive director's designee;

17 (e) One member representing the superior court judges' association;

18 (f) One member representing the district and municipal court
19 judges' association;

20 (g) One member representing the Washington state association of
21 counties;

22 (h) One member representing the Washington association of
23 prosecuting attorneys;

24 (i) One member representing the Washington defender's association
25 or the Washington association of criminal defense lawyers;

26 (j) One member representing the Washington state association of
27 cities;

28 (k) One member representing the Washington association of county
29 officials;

1 (l) One evidence room technician who is employed by a county law
2 enforcement agency;

3 (m) One evidence room technician who is employed by a city law
4 enforcement agency;

5 (n) Two members representing victims of crimes and their family
6 members and friends;

7 (o) Two members, appointed by the governor, who represent the
8 community from the innocence network in Washington state; and

9 (p) If available and willing to voluntarily participate, one member
10 representing the Washington state forensic investigations council.

11 (3) The work group shall choose its chair from among its
12 legislative membership. The chair shall convene the initial meeting of
13 the work group.

14 (4) At a minimum, the work group shall research, review, and make
15 recommendations on whether to:

16 (a) Preserve all items of biological material relating to felony
17 offenses;

18 (b) Ensure biological material is not lost, destroyed, or
19 contaminated;

20 (c) Determine consistent specified time periods that biological
21 material be retained and secured in connection with a felony criminal
22 investigation;

23 (d) Develop a model policy for the collection, tracking, packaging,
24 storing, and disposition of biological material, including the length
25 of time biological material should be retained by a governmental
26 entity; and

27 (e) Develop a statewide policy that provides clear direction for
28 the disposal of recovered property from misdemeanor criminal
29 investigations when storage of evidence is an issue for felony criminal
30 investigations.

31 (5) The work group shall compile its findings and recommendations
32 for the retention and disposition of biological material into a final
33 report and provide its report to the appropriate committees of the
34 legislature and governor by December 1, 2014.

35 (6) The work group shall function within existing resources and no
36 specific budget may be provided to complete the report. The
37 participants are encouraged to donate their time to offset any costs.

38 (7) This section expires January 1, 2015."

1 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Requires that the DNA work group include two evidence room technicians (one from a county and one from a city), and if available and willing to voluntarily participate, one member representing the Washington state forensic investigations council. Makes other technical clarifications relating to the work group.

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