

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1597

As Reported by House Committee On:
Government Accountability & Oversight

Title: An act relating to marijuana law technical corrections.

Brief Description: Making marijuana law technical corrections.

Sponsors: Representatives Goodman and Ryu.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Government Accountability & Oversight: 2/7/13, 2/12/13 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Makes several technical changes to the Revised Code of Washington in order to correct statutory citations and make them consistent with the statutory changes brought about by Initiative 502.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & OVERSIGHT

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Hurst, Chair; Wylie, Vice Chair; Condotta, Ranking Minority Member; Holy, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Blake, Kirby, Moscoso, Shea and Smith.

Staff: Thamas Osborn (786-7129).

Background:

Initiative 502 (I-502) was a ballot measure approved by Washington voters in November of 2012. The passage of the initiative legalized the recreational use of marijuana and created a comprehensive regulatory scheme that includes provisions regarding the following:

- legalizing marijuana and related products for personal use;
- licensing and regulating marijuana production and distribution;
- implementation of excise taxes on marijuana production, distribution, and sales;
- creation of a dedicated marijuana fund for the collection and distribution of marijuana-related tax revenues;

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.

- deletion of statutory provisions containing criminal and/or civil penalties for activities authorized by I-502; and
- revision of drunk driving laws to include specific provisions pertaining to driving under the influence of marijuana.

The scope of the initiative was quite broad and included the creation of many new statutory sections as well as the amendment of 14 existing statutes.

The last section of I-502 directed the Office of the Code Reviser to prepare a technical bill for the 2013 legislative session for the purpose of correcting statutory references in the Revised Code of Washington in order to make them consistent with the statutory changes brought about by the act.

Summary of Bill:

The act makes several purely technical changes to the Revised Code of Washington in order to correct statutory citations and make them consistent with the statutory changes brought about by I-502.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) None.

(Information only) The I-502 explicitly directed the Office of the Code Reviser to prepare a bill to make any technical corrections to Washington statutes that might be necessary upon the passage of the initiative. This bill is in response to this directive. It is a very small, purely technical bill that makes some corrections to various cross-referencing problems created by the statutory changes made by I-502.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Kyle Thiessen, Office of the Code Reviser.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.