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HOUSE BILL 2076

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Sawyer and Pollet

Read first time 02/11/15. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to information concerning racial  
2 disproportionality; amending RCW 43.88C.050; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 43.88C RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the health,  
6 safety, and productivity of all communities is of the utmost  
7 importance to the state of Washington, including historically  
8 marginalized racial and ethnic communities. All citizens are harmed  
9 by unintended racial and ethnic disparities created by legislation.  
10 Therefore, the legislature intends to create a proactive tool  
11 intended to provide legislators with aggregated and disaggregated  
12 demographical data and other information to help legislators  
13 understand possible disparate racial and ethnic impacts, and thus  
14 better informed and intentional decisions on legislative proposals.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.88C.050 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 40 s 29 are each  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (1) The caseload forecast council shall appoint a research staff  
18 of sufficient size and with sufficient resources to accomplish its  
19 duties. The caseload forecast council may request from the  
20 administrative office of the courts and the department of social and

1 health services such data, information, and data processing  
2 assistance as it may need to accomplish its duties, and such services  
3 shall be provided without cost to the caseload forecast council.

4 (2) The caseload forecast council may request from the  
5 administrative office of the courts, the department of social and  
6 health services, the department of corrections, the office of the  
7 superintendent of public instruction, and other agencies, such data,  
8 information, and data processing assistance as it may need to  
9 accomplish its duties, and these services shall be provided without  
10 charge to the caseload forecast council.

11 (3) The caseload forecast council is considered a criminal  
12 justice agency within the meaning of RCW 10.97.030.

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 43.88C  
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 (1) The caseload forecast council, in cooperation with  
16 appropriate legislative committees and legislative staff, the office  
17 of financial management, the department of corrections, the  
18 department of social and health services, the administrative office  
19 of the courts, the minority and justice commission, the Washington  
20 state institute for public policy, and the sentencing guidelines  
21 commission shall establish a procedure for the provision of racial  
22 impact statements on the effect that legislative bills and  
23 resolutions will have on racial and ethnic minority groups, including  
24 but not limited to the racial and ethnic composition of the criminal  
25 and juvenile justice systems.

26 (2) The caseload forecast council shall provide a racial and  
27 ethnic impact statement on any legislative proposal at the request of  
28 any legislator.

29 (3) This section shall not prevent either the house of  
30 representatives or the senate from acting on any bill before it as  
31 otherwise provided by the state Constitution, by law, or by the rules  
32 and joint rules of the senate and house of representatives, nor shall  
33 the lack of any racial impact statement provided in this section or  
34 any error in the accuracy thereof affect the validity of any measure  
35 otherwise duly passed by the legislature.

36 (4) For the purpose of this section, the juvenile justice system  
37 includes, but is not limited to, all matters based in juvenile court

1 as defined in RCW 13.04.030 and all juvenile court matters related to  
2 compulsory school attendance as described in chapter 28A.225 RCW.

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