

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6280

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As of January 30, 2018

**Title:** An act relating to issuing an identicard for offenders released from prison facilities.

**Brief Description:** Issuing an identicard for offenders released from prison facilities.

**Sponsors:** Senators Darneille, O'Ban, Kuderer, Hasegawa and Conway.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Human Services & Corrections: 1/16/18, 1/17/18 [DP-TRAN].  
Transportation: 1/29/18.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to collaborate with the Department of Licensing (DOL) to provide two-year identicards to offenders released in Washington State.
- Allows DOL to charge DOC a fee of \$18 for the identicard.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS

**Majority Report:** Do pass and be referred to Committee on Transportation.

Signed by Senators Darneille, Chair; Dhingra, Vice Chair; O'Ban, Ranking Member; Carlyle, Frockt, Miloscia and Walsh.

**Staff:** Kevin Black (786-7747)

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Staff:** Bryon Moore (786-7726)

**Background:** DOL issues identicards, containing a picture, to applicants who:

- do not hold a valid Washington driver's license;
- prove their identity as required by law; and
- pay the required fee.

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*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.*

An identicard expires six years after the applicant's first birthday after the identicard is issued. The fee for an identicard is \$54, but an identicard must be provided at cost to an applicant who: (1) is receiving continuing public assistance grants and is referred in writing by the Department of Social and Health Services; or (2) is under 18 years of age and does not have a permanent residence.

**Summary of Bill:** DOC must work in conjunction with DOL to create and implement an identicard program to provide offenders released in Washington State with a state-issued identicard. An offender is eligible for an identicard if the offender:

- meets DOL criteria;
- is sentenced to the custody of DOC and is incarcerated with an earned release date that is more than one year from the offender's admission date;
- is expected to be released to a location within Washington State; and
- does not have a current, valid state-issued identification card.

An identicard issued by DOC under this act must expire two years from the first anniversary of the offender's birthdate after issuance. DOL may charge DOC \$18 as a fee for issuance. DOC and DOL have the discretion to implement this act over a period of 12 months following January 1, 2019.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members:** No.

**Effective Date:** January 1, 2019.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony (Human Services & Corrections):** PRO: This bill removes a step compared to last year's bill. DOC is building a statewide approach to recidivism reduction. This bill will improve public safety by providing individuals being released with current photo identification. Obtaining an ID is a cornerstone to successful reentry. An ID is needed to access housing, treatment services, and employment. This version allows DOC to pay the fee of \$18 on behalf of the individual. This bill helps the people who need it the most: those with mental health or substance abuse issues and those processing being released from a long period of incarceration. This small step will help more than you realize.

**Persons Testifying (Human Services & Corrections):** PRO: Senator Jeannie Darneille, Prime Sponsor; Danielle Armbruster, DOC; Christopher Poulos, Washington Statewide Reentry Council.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying (Human Services & Corrections):** No one.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony (Transportation):** PRO: This is part of a statewide approach to reducing recidivism and increase post-release employment. The identicard is

needed for employment, treatment, and housing. This removes a significant barrier to successful transitions and reducing poverty.

**Persons Testifying (Transportation):** PRO: Danielle Armbruster, DOC; Paul Benz, Faith Action Network; Stephanie Sams, DOL.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying (Transportation):** No one.