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HOUSE BILL 2360

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

**By** Representatives Pellicciotti, Kraft, Dolan, McDonald, Orwall, Hayes, Van Werven, Klippert, Lovick, Kloba, Fey, Tarleton, Johnson, Sawyer, Kirby, Stanford, Reeves, Jenkins, Ryu, Ortiz-Self, and Riccelli

Prefiled 01/03/18. Read first time 01/08/18. Referred to Committee on Public Safety.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing penalties for the crime of  
2 patronizing a prostitute; amending RCW 9A.88.110; and prescribing  
3 penalties.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9A.88.110 and 2017 c 232 s 1 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) A person is guilty of patronizing a prostitute if:

8 (a) Pursuant to a prior understanding, he or she pays a fee to  
9 another person as compensation for such person or a third person  
10 having engaged in sexual conduct with him or her; or

11 (b) He or she pays or agrees to pay a fee to another person  
12 pursuant to an understanding that in return therefor such person will  
13 engage in sexual conduct with him or her; or

14 (c) He or she solicits or requests another person to engage in  
15 sexual conduct with him or her in return for a fee.

16 (2) The crime of patronizing a prostitute may be committed in  
17 more than one location. The crime is deemed to have been committed in  
18 any location in which the defendant commits any act under subsection  
19 (1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section that constitutes part of the  
20 crime. A person who sends a communication to patronize a prostitute  
21 is considered to have committed the crime both at the place from

1 which the contact was made pursuant to subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c)  
2 of this section and where the communication is received, provided  
3 that this section must be construed to prohibit anyone from being  
4 prosecuted twice for substantially the same crime.

5 (3) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" has the  
6 meaning given in RCW 9A.88.030.

7 (4) Patronizing a prostitute is a gross misdemeanor.

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