

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 1326

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Collecting DNA samples.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Public Safety (originally sponsored by Representatives Klippert and Goodman).

**House Committee on Public Safety**  
**House Committee on Appropriations**  
**Senate Committee on Law & Justice**  
**Senate Committee on Ways & Means**

### **Background:**

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) maintains the state Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), which is composed of different indexes of samples, including:

- *Offender Index:* deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) profiles of persons convicted of certain crimes in Washington;
- *Forensic Index:* DNA profiles generated from crime scene evidence;
- *Missing Persons Index:* DNA records of missing persons and deduced missing persons;
- *Relatives of Missing Persons Index:* DNA records from the biological relatives of persons reported missing; and
- *Unidentified Humans Index:* DNA records from recovered living persons and recovered deceased persons whose identities are unknown.

Samples eligible for upload to the state CODIS database are automatically searched against the appropriate indexes and may result in an investigative lead for the submitting agency. Investigative leads may be due to a profile in the Forensic Index matching another Forensic Index profile (a forensic hit) or matching a profile in the Offender Index (an offender hit).

All 50 states, the District of Columbia, the United States Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory, and Puerto Rico submit eligible DNA profiles to the Federal Bureau of Investigation-sponsored National DNA Index System (NDIS). Searches against the appropriate indexes are regularly conducted at NDIS, resulting in hits between Washington DNA profiles and profiles submitted by other NDIS-participating laboratories across the nation.

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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.*

*Submission of Biological Samples for the Offender Index.* State law requires the collection of biological samples from certain convicted offenders for DNA analysis and entry into CODIS. Samples must be collected from any person convicted of a felony, any person who is required to register as a sex or kidnapping offender, and any person convicted of the following misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors:

- Assault in the fourth degree with Sexual Motivation;
- Assault in the fourth degree when Domestic Violence was pleaded and proven;
- Communication with a Minor for Immoral Purposes;
- Custodial Sexual Misconduct in the second degree;
- Failure to Register as a sex or kidnapping offender;
- Harassment;
- Patronizing a Prostitute;
- Sexual Misconduct with a Minor in the second degree;
- Stalking; and
- violation of a Sexual Assault protection order.

*Collection and Testing of Biological Samples.* County and city jails are responsible for collecting biological samples for DNA analysis from offenders incarcerated in jails. The Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) are responsible for collecting biological samples for DNA analysis from adult and juvenile offenders incarcerated in state facilities. On July 1, 2019, state facilities where juveniles are incarcerated will shift from DSHS to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF).

Local police departments and sheriffs' offices are responsible for collecting biological samples for DNA analysis from registered sex and kidnapping offenders and convicted offenders who do not serve any term of incarceration.

The WSP Crime Laboratory tests offender biological samples and enters relevant information into CODIS. The WSP Crime Laboratory must prioritize the testing of samples from persons convicted of sex offenses and violent offenses.

*Refusal to Provide a Sample.* A person who has a duty to register as a sex or kidnapping offender who willfully refuses to comply with a legal request for a DNA sample is guilty of the crime of Refusal to Provide DNA. Refusal to Provide DNA is a gross misdemeanor.

*Indecent Exposure.* A person is guilty of Indecent Exposure if he or she intentionally makes any open and obscene exposure of his or her person, or another person, knowing that such conduct is likely to cause reasonable affront or alarm. Indecent Exposure is generally a misdemeanor; however, a first offense of Indecent Exposure is a gross misdemeanor if the offender exposes himself or herself to a person under the age of 14 years, and Indecent Exposure is a class C felony upon a second or subsequent offense, or if the offender has a prior sex offense conviction.

**Summary:**

*Submission of Biological Samples for the Offender Index.* A person convicted of Indecent Exposure is required to provide a biological sample for DNA testing and entry into CODIS. In addition, law enforcement agencies are authorized to submit any lawfully obtained biological samples within their control from deceased offenders with previous felony convictions or convictions for other crimes for which biological samples are collected. A qualifying deceased offender's sample may be submitted regardless of the date of the prior conviction.

A municipal jurisdiction may also submit any biological sample for DNA testing when the sample was collected from a defendant upon conviction for a municipal offense where the underlying ordinance does not adopt the relevant state statute by reference but the offense is otherwise equivalent to a state offense where collection is required. To qualify for submission, the sample must have been collected on or after June 12, 2008, and before January 1, 2020, and the municipal prosecuting authority must sign an affidavit specifying the state offense to which the municipal offense is equivalent.

*Collection and Testing of Biological Samples.* References to "DSHS facilities" are changed to "DCYF facilities." The DOC and the DCYF must collect samples as part of the offender intake process. If a sample is not taken during the intake process, then it must be taken as soon as is practicable.

For a person who will not serve any term of confinement, the court must order the person to report to the local police department or sheriff's office within a reasonable period time established by the court in order to provide a required biological sample. In addition, the court must inform the person that refusal to provide a biological sample is a gross misdemeanor.

The requirements for the WSP to prioritize testing of certain offender samples are removed.

*Refusal to Provide a Sample.* The crime of Refusal to Provide DNA is expanded to apply to any person lawfully required to provide a sample who refuses to do so.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	97	0	
Senate	45	1	(Senate amended)
House			(House refused to concur)
Senate	48	1	(Senate receded/amended)
House	97	1	(House concurred)

**Effective:** July 28, 2019