
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5882

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Pelz, McCaslin, Johnson, Madsen, Moore and Owen).

Read first time March 11, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to drug assets property forfeiture by criminals;
2 adding a new section to chapter 43.10 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that drug asset
5 forfeiture and criminal profiteering laws allow law enforcement
6 officials and the courts to strip drug dealers and other successful
7 criminals of the wealth they have acquired from their crimes and the
8 assets they have used to facilitate those crimes. These laws are
9 rarely used by prosecutors, however, because of the difficulty in
10 identifying profiteering and the assets that criminals may have as a
11 result of their crimes. It is the intent of the legislature to provide
12 assistance to local law enforcement officials and state agencies to
13 seize the assets of criminals and the proceeds of their profiteering.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.10 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 The attorney general shall: (1) Assist local law enforcement
4 officials in the development of cases arising under the criminal
5 profiteering laws with special emphasis on narcotics related cases; (2)
6 assist local prosecutors in the litigation of criminal profiteering
7 cases, or, at the request of a prosecutor's office, litigate such cases
8 on its behalf; (3) conduct seminars and training sessions on
9 prosecution of criminal profiteering cases and drug asset forfeiture
10 cases; and (4) litigate drug asset forfeiture and criminal profiteering
11 cases.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of
13 this act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June
14 30, 1991, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act shall be null and
15 void.