
SENATE BILL 5141

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Long, Hargrove, Franklin and Winsley; by request of Department of Corrections

Read first time 01/16/97. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to siting of work release facilities; and amending
2 RCW 72.65.210 and 72.65.220.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 72.65.210 and 1995 c 399 s 203 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The department shall establish, by rule, inmate eligibility
7 standards for participation in the work release program.

8 (2) The department shall:

9 (a) Conduct an annual examination of each work release facility and
10 its security procedures;

11 (b) Investigate and set standards for the inmate supervision
12 policies of each work release facility;

13 (c) Establish physical standards for future work release structures
14 to ensure the safety of inmates, employees, and the surrounding
15 communities;

16 (d) Evaluate its recordkeeping of serious infractions to determine
17 if infractions are properly and consistently assessed against inmates
18 eligible for work release;

1 (e) Report to the legislature on a case management procedure to
2 evaluate and determine those inmates on work release who are in need of
3 treatment. The department shall establish in the report a written
4 treatment plan best suited to the inmate's needs, cost, and the
5 relationship of community placement and community corrections officers
6 to a system of case management;

7 (f) Adopt a policy to encourage businesses employing work release
8 inmates to contact the appropriate work release facility whenever an
9 inmate is absent from his or her work schedule. The department of
10 corrections shall provide each employer with written information and
11 instructions on who should be called if a work release employee is
12 absent from work or leaves the job site without authorization; and

13 (g) Develop a siting policy, in conjunction with cities, counties,
14 community groups, and the department of community, trade, and economic
15 development for the establishment of additional work release
16 facilities. Such policy shall include at least the following elements:

17 (i) Guidelines for appropriate site selection of work-release
18 facilities; (ii) notification requirements to local government and
19 community groups of intent to site a work release facility; and (iii)
20 guidelines for effective community relations by the work release
21 program operator.

22 (~~The department shall comply with the requirements of this section~~
23 ~~by July 1, 1990.~~)

24 **Sec. 2.** RCW 72.65.220 and 1994 c 271 s 1001 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 (1) The department and other state agencies that have
27 responsibility for siting the department's facilities shall establish
28 a process for early and continuous public participation in establishing
29 or relocating work release or other community-based facilities. This
30 process shall include public meetings in the local communities
31 affected, opportunities for written and oral comments, and wide
32 dissemination of proposals and alternatives.

33 (2) The department may establish or relocate a work release or
34 other community-based facility only after holding local public meetings
35 and providing public notification to local communities consistent with
36 this chapter.

37 (3) When the department has selected three or fewer sites for final
38 consideration for site selection of a work release or other community-

1 based facility, notification shall be given and public hearings shall
2 be held in the final three or fewer local communities where the siting
3 is proposed. Additional notification and a public hearing shall also
4 be conducted in the local community selected as the final proposed
5 site, prior to completion of the siting process. All hearings and
6 notifications shall be consistent with this chapter.

7 (4) Throughout this process the department shall provide
8 notification to all newspapers of general circulation in the local area
9 and all local radio stations, television stations, and cable networks.

10 (5) Notice shall also be provided to appropriate school districts,
11 private schools, kindergartens, city and county libraries, and all
12 other local government offices within a one-half mile radius of the
13 proposed facility.

14 (6) In addition, the department shall also provide notice to the
15 local chamber of commerce, local economic development agencies, and any
16 other local organizations that request such notification from the
17 department.

18 (7) Notification in writing shall be provided to all residents and/
19 or property owners within a one-half mile radius of the proposed site.

20 (8) This section shall not apply if a local governmental entity
21 proposes a site or sites in its jurisdiction which satisfies the
22 guidelines for appropriate site selection as established by the
23 department in conjunction with local communities for a work release
24 facility. In such case, the local governmental entity shall hold a
25 public hearing in accordance with local zoning requirements regarding
26 the proposed site or sites and may issue a permit to the department for
27 construction and operation of a work release facility at one of the
28 proposed sites at the conclusion of the hearing, after due
29 consideration of all the evidence presented.

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