Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

HB 1836

Brief Description: Requiring registered sex and kidnapping offenders to register after serving a term of confinement for a subsequent offense that is not a sex or kidnapping offense.

Sponsors: Representatives Ericks, Pearson, Lovick, Williams, Kelley, Kretz, Hurst and Simpson.

Brief Summary of Bill

Requires registered sex and kidnapping offenders, who are subsequently confined
pursuant to a conviction of a non-sex, non-kidnapping offense, to register upon release
with the county sheriff.

Hearing Date: 2/12/07

Staff: Jim Morishima (786-7191).

Background:

A sex or kidnapping offender must register with the county sheriff of the county in which he or she resides. The offender must also notify the county sheriff if he or she enrolls in a public or private school or an institution of higher education. Law enforcement officials use the information in the registry to notify the public, subject to certain guidelines, of a sex offender's presence in the community.

An offender who serves a term of confinement pursuant to a conviction for a sex or kidnapping offense must register at the time of release with the agency that has jurisdiction over the offender. The agency must then transmit the information within three days to the county sheriff. The offender must also register with the county sheriff within 24 hours of release.

An offender who changes his or her address or becomes homeless must provide written notice to the county sheriff of his or her change in status. Homeless offenders must report weekly to the

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county sheriff. Level II and III sex offenders who have a fixed residence must report to the county sheriff every 90 days.

Failure to meet the requirements of the registration statute is a gross misdemeanor if the crime that caused the offender's duty to register was a misdemeanor or a gross misdemeanor. Failure to meet the requirements of the registration statute is a class C felony if the crime that caused the offender's duty to register was a felony. For kidnapping offenders, a class C felony violation of the registration statute is unranked. For sex offenders, a class C felony violation of the registration statute is unranked for the first offense and ranked at seriousness level II for second and subsequent offenses.

Summary of Bill:

If a registered sex or kidnapping offender is subsequently confined pursuant to a conviction for a non-sex, non-kidnapping offense, he or she must register with the agency that has jurisdiction over him or her. The agency must transmit the information to the county sheriff within three days. The offender must then register with the county sheriff within 24 hours of release. The agency with jurisdiction over the offender must provide the offender with notice of the duty to register.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.