Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

HB 2999

Brief Description: Concerning the "chief for a day" program.

Sponsors: Representatives Hurst, Loomis, Kelley, Kirby, Liias, Morrell, Green and Simpson; by request of Governor Gregoire.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Establishes the "Chief for a Day Program" to provide a day of special attention to chronically ill children.

Hearing Date: 1/28/08

Staff: Yvonne Walker (786-7841).

Background:

The Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) was established in 1974. Its primary purpose is to provide basic law enforcement training, corrections training, and educational programs for criminal justice personnel, including commissioned officers, corrections officers, fire marshals, and prosecuting attorneys.

Summary of Bill:

The Legislature finds that the CJTC's participation in charitable work, such as the "Chief for a Day Program" (program) that provides special attention to chronically ill children, advances the overall purposes of the CJTC by promoting positive relationships between law enforcement and the citizens of the State of Washington.

The "Chief for a Day Program" is defined as, a program that commissioners and staff partner with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and the community to provide a day of special attention to chronically ill children. Each child is selected and sponsored by a law enforcement agency. The event occurs one day, annually or every other year and may occur on the grounds and in the facilities of the CJTC. The program may include any appropriate honoring

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of the child as a chief, such as a certificate swearing the child in as a chief, a badge, a uniform, and donated gifts such as games, puzzles, and art supplies.

The duties and powers of the CJTC are expanded to include promoting positive relationships between law enforcement and citizens by authorizing commissioners and staff to participate in the program events. The CJTC may accept grants and gifts and use public facilities for purposes of the events. The Executive Director of the CJTC must designate staff who may participate in the program. However, all staff and commissioners who participate in the events must comply with the state's ethics rules and regulations.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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