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HOUSE BILL 2764

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives O'Brien, Pearson, Dickerson, Loomis, Hurst, Morrell, Sullivan, Kenney, McDonald, Hudgins, and Kelley; by request of Department of Corrections

Read first time 01/16/08. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to adding domestic violence court order violation
- 2 to the list of offenses eligible for notification; and amending RCW
- 3 9.94A.612 and 9.94A.614.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.94A.612 and 1996 c 215 s 4 are each amended to read 6 as follows:
- 7 (1) At the earliest possible date, and in no event later than
- 8 thirty days before release except in the event of escape or emergency
- 9 furloughs as defined in RCW 72.66.010, the department of corrections
- 10 shall send written notice of parole, release, community placement, work
- 11 release placement, furlough, or escape about a specific inmate
- 12 convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as defined by RCW
- 13 9.94A.030, a domestic violence court order violation pursuant to RCW
- 14 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.50.110,
- 15 26.52.070, or 74.34.145, or a felony harassment offense as defined by
- 16 RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110, to the following:
- 17 (a) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the inmate
- 18 will reside or in which placement will be made in a work release
- 19 program; and

p. 1 HB 2764

1 (b) The sheriff of the county in which the inmate will reside or in 2 which placement will be made in a work release program.

The sheriff of the county where the offender was convicted shall be notified if the department does not know where the offender will reside. The department shall notify the state patrol of the release of all sex offenders, and that information shall be placed in the Washington crime information center for dissemination to all law enforcement.

- (2) The same notice as required by subsection (1) of this section shall be sent to the following if such notice has been requested in writing about a specific inmate convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030, a domestic violence court order violation pursuant to RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.50.110, 26.52.070, or 74.34.145, or a felony harassment offense as defined by RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110:
- 16 (a) The victim of the crime for which the inmate was convicted or 17 the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;
 - (b) Any witnesses who testified against the inmate in any court proceedings involving the violent offense;
 - (c) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney; and
 - (d) Any person who requests such notice about a specific inmate convicted of a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030 from the department of corrections at least sixty days prior to the expected release date of the offender.

Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are confidential and shall not be available to the inmate. Whenever the department of corrections mails notice pursuant to this subsection and the notice is returned as undeliverable, the department shall attempt alternative methods of notification, including a telephone call to the person's last known telephone number.

(3) The existence of the notice requirements contained in subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall not require an extension of the release date in the event that the release plan changes after notification.

HB 2764 p. 2

- (4) If an inmate convicted of a violent offense, a sex offense as 1 2 defined by RCW 9.94A.030, a domestic violence court order violation pursuant to RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 3 <u>26.50.110</u>, <u>26.52.070</u>, or <u>74.34.145</u>, or a felony harassment offense as 4 defined by RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110, escapes from a correctional 5 facility, the department of corrections shall immediately notify, by 6 7 the most reasonable and expedient means available, the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the inmate resided 8 immediately before the inmate's arrest and conviction. 9 If previously 10 requested, the department shall also notify the witnesses and the victim of the crime for which the inmate was convicted or the victim's 11 12 next of kin if the crime was a homicide. If the inmate is recaptured, the department shall send notice to the persons designated in this 13 14 subsection as soon as possible but in no event later than two working days after the department learns of such recapture. 15
 - (5) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be sent to the parents or legal guardian of the child.

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- (6) The department of corrections shall send the notices required by this chapter to the last address provided to the department by the requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department with a current address.
- 23 (7) The department of corrections shall keep, for a minimum of two 24 years following the release of an inmate, the following:
 - (a) A document signed by an individual as proof that that person is registered in the victim or witness notification program; and
 - (b) A receipt showing that an individual registered in the victim or witness notification program was mailed a notice, at the individual's last known address, upon the release or movement of an inmate.
- 31 (8) For purposes of this section the following terms have the 32 following meanings:
 - (a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;
- 34 (b) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, parents, siblings and 35 children.
- 36 (9) Nothing in this section shall impose any liability upon a chief 37 of police of a city or sheriff of a county for failing to request in 38 writing a notice as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

p. 3 HB 2764

Sec. 2. RCW 9.94A.614 and 1989 c 30 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

 The department of corrections shall provide the victims, witnesses, and next of kin in the case of a homicide and victims and witnesses involved in violent offense cases ((or)), sex offenses as defined by RCW 9.94A.030, a domestic violence court order violation pursuant to RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.50.110, 26.52.070, or 74.34.145, or a felony harassment pursuant to RCW 9A.46.060 or 9A.46.110, where a judgment and sentence was entered after October 1, 1983, a statement of the rights of victims and witnesses to request and receive notification under RCW 9.94A.612 and 9.94A.616.

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HB 2764 p. 4