| S-2545.2 |  |
|----------|--|
|----------|--|

#### SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5070

\_\_\_\_\_

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Carrell, Regala, Hargrove, Kline, Weinstein, Stevens, Brandland, Parlette, McCaslin, Kastama, Holmquist, Zarelli, Pridemore, Schoesler, Clements, Rasmussen, Swecker, Roach, Franklin, Delvin, Sheldon, Eide, Spanel, Hewitt, Hatfield, Keiser, Pflug, McAuliffe, Berkey, Haugen, Fairley, Murray, Tom, Kohl-Welles, Shin and Kilmer)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/07.

AN ACT Relating to reduction of offender recidivism; amending RCW 1 2 72.09.300, 72.09.015, 9.94A.728, 9.94A.850, 72.09.460, 72.09.480, 72.09.450, 29A.04.079, 29A.08.520, 9.92.066, 9.94A.637, 9.96.050, and 3 10.64.140; adding new sections to chapter 4.24 RCW; adding new sections 4 to chapter 72.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.04 RCW; adding 5 a new section to chapter 82.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 7 59.18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.82 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 43.185C RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 72 RCW; 8 creating new sections; repealing RCW 10.64.021 and 29A.08.660; and 9 10 providing expiration dates.

#### 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** The people of the state of Washington expect to live in safe communities in which the threat of crime is minimized. 13 Attempting to keep communities safe by building more prisons and paying 14 the costs of incarceration has proven to be expensive to taxpayers. 15 Incarceration is a necessary consequence for some offenders, however, 16 the vast majority of those offenders will eventually return to their 17 communities. Many of these former offenders will not have had the 18 19 opportunity to address the deficiencies that may have contributed to

p. 1 2SSB 5070

their criminal behavior. Persons who do not have basic literacy and job skills, or who are ill-equipped to make the behavioral changes necessary to successfully function in the community, have a high risk of reoffense. Recidivism represents serious costs to victims, both financial and nonmonetary in nature, and also burdens state and local governments with those offenders who recycle through the criminal justice system.

The legislature believes that recidivism can be reduced and a substantial cost savings can be realized by utilizing evidence-based, research-based, and promising programs to address offender deficits, developing and better coordinating the reentry efforts of state and local governments and local communities. Research shows that if quality assurances are adhered to, implementing an optimal portfolio of evidence-based programming options for offenders who are willing to take advantage of such programs can have a notable impact on recidivism.

While the legislature recognizes that recidivism cannot be eliminated and that a significant number of offenders are unwilling or unable to work to develop the tools necessary to successfully reintegrate into society, the interests of the public overall are better served by better preparing offenders while incarcerated, and continuing those efforts for those recently released from prison or jail, for successful, productive, and healthy transitions to their communities. Educational, employment, and treatment opportunities should be designed to address individual deficits and ideally give offenders the ability to function in society. In order to foster reintegration, this act recognizes the importance of a strong partnership between the department of corrections, local governments, law enforcement, social service providers, and interested members of communities across our state.

# PART I - COMMUNITY TRANSITION COORDINATION NETWORKS

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 101.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) A "community transition coordination network" is a system of coordination that facilitates partnerships between supervision and service providers. It is anticipated that an offender who is released

to the community will be able to utilize a community transition coordination network to be connected directly to the supervision and/or services needed for successful reentry.

1 2

- (2) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has had multiple-site random controlled trials across heterogeneous populations demonstrating that the program or practice is effective in reducing recidivism for the population.
- (3) An "individual reentry plan" means the plan to prepare an offender for release into the community. A reentry plan is developed collaboratively between the supervising authority and the offender and based on an assessment of the offender using a standardized and comprehensive tool to identify the offenders' risks and needs. An individual reentry plan describes actions that must occur to prepare individual offenders for release from jail and specifies the supervision and/or services he or she will experience in the community, taking into account no contact provisions of the judgment and sentence. An individual reentry plan must be updated throughout the period of an offender's incarceration and supervision to be relevant to the offender's current needs and risks.
- (4) "Local community policing and supervision programs" include probation, work release, jails, and other programs operated by local police, courts, or local correctional agencies.
- (5) "Promising practice" means a practice that presents, based on preliminary information, potential for becoming a research-based or consensus-based practice.
- (6) "Research-based" means a program or practice that has some research demonstrating effectiveness, but that does not yet meet the standard of evidence-based practices.
- 29 (7) "Supervising authority" means the agency or entity that has the 30 responsibility for supervising an offender.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 102. (1) Each county or group of counties shall conduct an inventory of the services and resources available in the county or group of counties to assist offenders in reentering the community.
- 35 (2) In conducting its inventory, the county or group of counties 36 should consult with the following:

p. 3 2SSB 5070

- 1 (a) The department of corrections, including community corrections 2 officers;
  - (b) The department of social and health services in applicable program areas;
- 5 (c) Representatives from county human services departments and, 6 where applicable, multicounty regional support networks;
  - (d) Local public health jurisdictions;
  - (e) City and county law enforcement;
    - (f) Local probation/supervision programs;
    - (g) Local community and technical colleges;
- 11 (h) The local worksource center operated under the statewide 12 workforce investment system;
- 13 (i) Faith-based and nonprofit organizations providing assistance to 14 offenders;
  - (j) Housing providers;

6 7

8

10

15

16 17

18 19

2021

22

2324

25

2627

28

29

- (k) Crime victims service providers; and
- (1) Other community stakeholders interested in reentry efforts.
- (3) The inventory must include, but is not limited to:
- (a) A list of programs available through the entities listed in subsection (2) of this section and services currently available in the community for offenders including, but not limited to, housing assistance, employment assistance, education, vocational training, parenting education, financial literacy, treatment for substance abuse, mental health, anger management, life skills training, specialized treatment programs such as batterers treatment and sex offender treatment, and any other service or program that will assist the former offender to successfully transition into the community; and
- (b) An indication of the availability of community representatives or volunteers to assist the offender with his or her transition.
- 30 (4) No later than January 1, 2008, each county or group of counties 31 shall present its inventory to the policy advisory committee convened 32 in section 103(8) of this act.
- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 103.** (1) The department of community, trade, and economic development shall establish a community transition coordination network pilot program for the purpose of awarding grants to counties or groups of counties for implementing coordinated reentry

efforts for offenders returning to the community. Grant awards are subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose.

- (2) By September 1, 2007, the Washington state institute for public policy shall, in consultation with the department of community, trade, and economic development, develop criteria for the counties in conducting its evaluation as directed by subsection (6)(c) of this section.
- (3) Effective February 1, 2008, any county or group of counties may apply for participation in the community transition coordination network pilot program by submitting a proposal for a community transition coordination network.
- (4) A proposal for a community transition coordination network initiated under this section must be collaborative in nature and must seek locally appropriate evidence-based or research-based solutions and promising practices utilizing the participation of public and private entities or programs to support successful, community-based offender reentry.
- (5) In developing a proposal for a community transition coordination network, counties or groups of counties and the department of corrections shall collaborate in addressing:
- (a) Efficiencies that may be gained by sharing space or resources in the provision of reentry services to offenders;
- (b) Mechanisms for communication of information about offenders, including the feasibility of shared access to databases;
- (c) Partnerships between the department of corrections and local community policing and supervision programs to facilitate supervision of offenders under the respective jurisdictions of each and timely response to an offender's failure to comply with the terms of supervision.
- 31 (6) A proposal for a community transition coordination network must 32 include:
  - (a) Descriptions of collaboration and coordination between local community policing and supervision programs and those agencies and entities identified in the inventory conducted pursuant to section 102 of this act to address the risks and needs of offenders under a participating county or city misdemeanant probation or other supervision program including:

p. 5 2SSB 5070

- 1 (i) A proposed method of assessing offenders to identify the 2 offenders' risks and needs. Counties and cities are encouraged, where 3 possible, to make use of assessment tools developed by the department 4 of corrections in this regard;
  - (ii) A proposal for developing and/or maintaining an individual reentry plan for offenders;

- (iii) Connecting offenders to services and resources that meet the offender's needs as identified in his or her individual reentry plan including the identification of community representatives or volunteers that may assist the offender with his or her transition; and
- (iv) The communication of assessment information, individual reentry plans, and service information between parties involved with offender's reentry;
- (b) Mechanisms to provide information to former offenders regarding services available to them in the community regardless of the length of time since the offender's release and regardless of whether the offender was released from prison or jail. Mechanisms shall, at a minimum, provide for:
- (i) Maintenance of the information gathered in section 102 of this act regarding services currently existing within the community that are available to offenders; and
- (ii) Coordination of access to existing services with community providers and provision of information to offenders regarding how to access the various type of services and resources that are available in the community; and
- (c) An evaluation of the county's or group of counties' readiness to implement a community transition coordination network including the social service needs of offenders in general, capacity of local facilities and resources to meet offenders' needs, and the cost to implement and maintain a community transition coordination network for the duration of the pilot project.
- (7) The department of community, trade, and economic development shall review county applications for funding through the community transition coordination network pilot program and, no later than April 1, 2008, shall select up to four counties or groups of counties. In selecting pilot counties or regions, the department shall consider the extent to which the proposal:

1 (a) Addresses the requirements set out in subsection (6) of this 2 section;

- (b) Proposes effective partnerships and coordination between community policing and supervision programs, social service and treatment providers, and the department of corrections' community justice center, if a center is located in the county or region;
- (c) Focuses on measurable outcomes such as increased employment and income, treatment objectives, maintenance of stable housing, and reduced recidivism;
- (d) Contributes to the diversity of pilot programs, considering factors such as geographic location, size of county or region, and reentry services currently available. The department shall ensure that a grant is awarded to at least one rural county or group of counties and at least one county or group of counties where a community justice center operated by the department of corrections is located; and
- (e) Is feasible, given the evaluation of the social service needs of offenders, the existing capacity of local facilities and resources to meet offenders' needs, and the cost to implement a community transition coordination network in the county or group of counties.
- (8) The department of community, trade, and economic development shall convene a policy advisory committee composed of representatives from the senate, the house of representatives, the governor's office of financial management, the department of corrections, to include one representative who is a community corrections officer, the office of crime victims' advocacy, the Washington state association of counties, association of Washington cities, a nonprofit provider of reentry services, and an ex-offender who has discharged the terms of his or her sentence. The advisory committee shall meet no less than annually to receive status reports on the implementation of community transition coordination networks, review annual reports and the pilot project evaluations submitted pursuant to section 105 of this act, and identify evidence-based, research-based, and promising practices for other counties seeking to establish community transition coordination networks.
- (9) Pilot networks established under this section shall extend for a period of four fiscal years, beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2012.
  - (10) This section expires June 30, 2013.

p. 7 2SSB 5070

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 104. Nothing in section 103 of this act is intended to shift the supervising responsibility or sanctioning authority from one government entity to another or give a community transition coordination network oversight responsibility for those activities.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 105.** (1) It is the intent of the legislature to provide funding for this project.
  - (2) Counties receiving state funds must:

15

16

1718

19

20

21

22

2324

2526

27

28

2930

31

32

- 9 (a) Demonstrate the funds allocated pursuant to this section will 10 be used only for those purposes in establishing and maintaining a 11 community transition coordination network;
- 12 (b) Consult with the Washington state institute for public policy 13 at the inception of the pilot project to refine appropriate outcome 14 measures and data tracking systems;
  - (c) Submit to the advisory committee established in section 103(8) of this act an annual progress report by June 30th of each year of the pilot project to report on identified outcome measures and identify evidence-based, research-based, or promising practices;
  - (d) Cooperate with the Washington state institute for public policy at the completion of the pilot project to conduct an evaluation of the project.
    - (3) The Washington state institute for public policy shall provide direction to counties in refining appropriate outcome measures for the pilot projects and establishing data tracking systems. At the completion of the pilot project, the institute shall conduct an evaluation of the projects including the benefit-cost ratio of service delivery through a community transition coordination network, associated reductions in recidivism, and identification of evidence-based, research-based, or promising practices. The institute shall report to the governor and the legislature with the results of its evaluation no later than December 31, 2012.
      - (4) This section expires June 30, 2013.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 106. (1) The community transition coordination network account is created in the state treasury. The account may receive legislative appropriations, gifts, and grants. Moneys in the

- account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the purposes of section 103 of this act.
  - (2) This section expires June 30, 2013.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 107. Nothing in this act creates an entitlement for a county or group of counties to receive funding under the program created in section 103 of this act, nor an obligation for a county or group of counties to maintain a community transition coordination network established pursuant to section 103 of this act upon expiration of state funding.

- **Sec. 108.** RCW 72.09.300 and 1996 c 232 s 7 are each amended to 11 read as follows:
  - (1) Every county legislative authority shall by resolution or ordinance establish a local law and justice council. The county legislative authority shall determine the size and composition of the council, which shall include the county sheriff and a representative of the municipal police departments within the county, the county prosecutor and a representative of the municipal prosecutors within the county, a representative of the city legislative authorities within the county, a representative of the county's superior, juvenile, district, and municipal courts, the county jail administrator, the county clerk, the county risk manager, and the secretary of corrections and his or her designees. Officials designated may appoint representatives.
  - (2) A combination of counties may establish a local law and justice council by intergovernmental agreement. The agreement shall comply with the requirements of this section.
  - (3) The local law and justice council ((shall develop a local law and justice plan for the county. The council shall design the elements and scope of the plan, subject to final approval by the county legislative authority. The general intent of the plan shall include seeking means to maximize)) may address issues related to:
  - ((reduce)) reducing duplication of services, and ((share)) sharing resources between local and state government in order to accomplish local efficiencies without diminishing effectiveness((. The plan shall also include a section on jail management. This section may include the following elements:

p. 9 2SSB 5070

- 1 (a) A description of current jail conditions, including whether the jail is overcrowded;
  - (b) A description of potential alternatives to incarceration;
  - (c) A description of current jail resources;
- 5 (d) A description of the jail population as it presently exists and 6 how it is projected to change in the future;
  - (e) A description of projected future resource requirements;
  - (f) A proposed action plan, which shall include recommendations to maximize resources, maximize the use of intermediate sanctions, minimize overcrowding, avoid duplication of services, and effectively manage the jail and the offender population;
    - (g) A list of proposed advisory jail standards and methods to effect periodic quality assurance inspections of the jail;
  - (h) A proposed plan to collect, synthesize, and disseminate technical information concerning local criminal justice activities, facilities, and procedures;
    - (i) A description of existing and potential services for offenders including employment services, substance abuse treatment, mental health services, and housing referral services.
  - (4) The council may propose other elements of the plan, which shall be subject to review and approval by the county legislative authority, prior to their inclusion into the plan.
  - <del>(5)</del>))<u>;</u>

4

7

8

9 10

1112

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

2021

2.2

23

24

25

2627

28

29

3031

32

33

3435

36

- (b) Jail management;
- (c) Mechanisms for communication of information about offenders, including the feasibility of shared access to databases; and
- (d) Partnerships between the department and local community policing and supervision programs to facilitate supervision of offenders under the respective jurisdictions of each and timely response to an offender's failure to comply with the terms of supervision.
- (4) The county legislative authority may request technical assistance in ((developing or implementing the plan from)) coordinating services with other units or agencies of state or local government, which shall include the department, the office of financial management, and the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs.
- $((\frac{(6)}{(6)}))$  Upon receiving a request for assistance from a county, the department may provide the requested assistance.

((<del>(7)</del>)) (6) The secretary may adopt rules for the submittal, review, and approval of all requests for assistance made to the department. ((The secretary may also appoint an advisory committee of local and state government officials to recommend policies and procedures relating to the state and local correctional systems and to assist the department in providing technical assistance to local governments. The committee shall include representatives of the county sheriffs, the police chiefs, the county prosecuting attorneys, the county and city legislative authorities, and the jail administrators. The secretary may contract with other state and local agencies and provide funding in order to provide the assistance requested by counties.

- (8) The department shall establish a base level of state correctional services, which shall be determined and distributed in a consistent manner statewide. The department's contributions to any local government, approved pursuant to this section, shall not operate to reduce this base level of services.
- (9) The council shall establish an advisory committee on juvenile justice proportionality. The council shall appoint the county juvenile court administrator and at least five citizens as advisory committee members. The citizen advisory committee members shall be representative of the county's ethnic and geographic diversity. The advisory committee members shall serve two year terms and may be reappointed. The duties of the advisory committee include:
- (a) Monitoring and reporting to the sentencing guidelines commission on the proportionality, effectiveness, and cultural relevance of:
- (i) The rehabilitative services offered by county and state institutions to juvenile offenders; and
- (ii) The rehabilitative services offered in conjunction with diversions, deferred dispositions, community supervision, and parole;
- (b) Reviewing citizen complaints regarding bias or disproportionality in that county's juvenile justice system;
- (c) By September 1 of each year, beginning with 1995, submit to the sentencing guidelines commission a report summarizing the advisory committee's findings under (a) and (b) of this subsection.))

p. 11 2SSB 5070

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 109. If specific funding for the purposes of sections 101 through 107 of this act, referencing sections 101 through 107 of this act by bill or chapter number and section number, is not provided by June 30, 2007, in the omnibus appropriations act, sections 101 through 107 of this act are null and void.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 110.** Sections 101 through 107 of this act 7 constitute a new chapter in Title 72 RCW.

# 8 PART II - LIABILITY

9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 201.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW to read as follows:

District courts and municipal courts, and their officers, employees, agents, and volunteers, who provide preconviction or postconviction misdemeanor probation or supervision services, or monitor a misdemeanor defendant's compliance with a preconviction or postconviction order of the court, including but not limited to community corrections programs, community options programs, probation supervision, pretrial supervision, or pretrial release services, are not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in the provision of such services or monitoring, unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence. This section does not create any duty and shall not be construed to create a duty where none exists.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 202. A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW to read as follows:

The state, or a person, individually or in a representative capacity for the state, who provides preconviction or postconviction probation or supervision services, or monitors a defendant's compliance with a preconviction or postconviction order of the court, including but not limited to community corrections programs, probation supervision, pretrial supervision, or pretrial release services, are not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in the provision of such services or monitoring, unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence. This section does not create any duty and shall not be construed to create a duty where none exists.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 203. A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW to read as follows:

3 The state or local government, or a person, individually or in a representative capacity for the state or local government, who is 4 5 involved in the assessment or screening of an offender under supervision or community custody for the purpose of creating, amending, 6 7 maintaining, or implementing an individual reentry plan or who is involved in the delivery of services related to an individual reentry 8 plan as provided in this act, is not liable for selecting one of two or 9 10 more alternative courses of action even though the course of action chosen results in a poor outcome if the person exercised reasonable 11 care and skill in arriving at the judgment to follow the particular 12 13 course of action.

#### PART III - INDIVIDUAL REENTRY PLAN

14

17

2324

25

26

27

2829

30

- 15 **Sec. 301.** RCW 72.09.015 and 2004 c 167 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:
  - The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.
- 18 (1) "Adult basic education" means education or instruction designed
  19 to achieve general competence of skills in reading, writing, and oral
  20 communication, including English as a second language and preparation
  21 and testing services for obtaining a high school diploma or a general
  22 equivalency diploma.
  - (2) "Base level of correctional services" means the minimum level of field services the department of corrections is required by statute to provide for the supervision and monitoring of offenders.
  - $((\frac{(2)}{2}))$  <u>(3)</u> "Contraband" means any object or communication the secretary determines shall not be allowed to be: (a) Brought into; (b) possessed while on the grounds of; or (c) sent from any institution under the control of the secretary.
    - $((\frac{3}{1}))$  (4) "County" means a county or combination of counties.
- (((4))) <u>(5)</u> "Department" means the department of corrections.
- 32 (((5))) (6) "Earned early release" means earned release as 33 authorized by RCW 9.94A.728.
- 34 ((<del>(6)</del>)) <u>(7) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has</u> 35 had multiple-site random controlled trials across heterogeneous

p. 13 2SSB 5070

populations demonstrating that the program or practice is effective in reducing recidivism for the population.

- (8) "Extended family visit" means an authorized visit between an inmate and a member of his or her immediate family that occurs in a private visiting unit located at the correctional facility where the inmate is confined.
- $((\frac{7}{1}))$  (9) "Good conduct" means compliance with department rules and policies.
- ((+8)) (10) "Good performance" means successful completion of a program required by the department, including an education, work, or other program.
  - $((\frac{(9)}{)})$  (11) "Immediate family" means the inmate's children, stepchildren, grandchildren, great grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents, great grandparents, siblings, and a person legally married to an inmate. "Immediate family" does not include an inmate adopted by another inmate or the immediate family of the adopted or adopting inmate.
  - (((10))) (12) "Indigent inmate," "indigent," and "indigency" mean an inmate who has less than a ten-dollar balance of disposable income in his or her institutional account on the day a request is made to utilize funds and during the thirty days previous to the request.
  - an offender for release into the community. It must be developed collaboratively between the supervising authority and the offender and based on an assessment of the offender using a standardized and comprehensive tool to identify the offenders' risks and needs. The individual reentry plan describes actions that must occur to prepare individual offenders for release from prison or jail and specifies the supervision and services they will experience in the community. An individual reentry plan must be updated throughout the period of an offender's incarceration and supervision to be relevant to the offender's current needs and risks.
- 33 (14) "Inmate" means a person committed to the custody of the 34 department, including but not limited to persons residing in a 35 correctional institution or facility and persons released on furlough, 36 work release, or community custody, and persons received from another 37 state, state agency, county, or federal jurisdiction.

((<del>(12)</del>)) (<u>15)</u> "Privilege" means any goods or services, education or work programs, or earned early release days, the receipt of which are directly linked to an inmate's (a) good conduct; and (b) good performance. Privileges do not include any goods or services the department is required to provide under the state or federal Constitution or under state or federal law.

- ((\frac{(13)})) (16) "Promising practice" means a practice that presents, based on preliminary information, potential for becoming a research-based or consensus-based practice.
- (17) "Research-based" means a program or practice that has some research demonstrating effectiveness, but that does not yet meet the standard of evidence-based practices.
- 13 <u>(18)</u> "Secretary" means the secretary of corrections or his or her 14 designee.
  - ((\(\frac{(14)}{14}\))) (19) "Significant expansion" includes any expansion into a new product line or service to the class I business that results from an increase in benefits provided by the department, including a decrease in labor costs, rent, or utility rates (for water, sewer, electricity, and disposal), an increase in work program space, tax advantages, or other overhead costs.
  - $((\frac{15}{15}))$  (20) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of a correctional facility under the jurisdiction of the Washington state department of corrections, or his or her designee.
    - (((16))) (21) "Unfair competition" means any net competitive advantage that a business may acquire as a result of a correctional industries contract, including labor costs, rent, tax advantages, utility rates (water, sewer, electricity, and disposal), and other overhead costs. To determine net competitive advantage, the correctional industries board shall review and quantify any expenses unique to operating a for-profit business inside a prison.
- 31 ((<del>(17)</del>)) (22) "Vocational training" or "vocational education" means
  32 "vocational education" as defined in RCW 72.62.020.
- 33 <u>(23)</u> "Washington business" means an in-state manufacturer or 34 service provider subject to chapter 82.04 RCW existing on June 10, 35 2004.
- $((\frac{18}{18}))$  <u>(24)</u> "Work programs" means all classes of correctional industries jobs authorized under RCW 72.09.100.

p. 15 2SSB 5070

NEW SECTION. Sec. 302. A new section is added to chapter 72.09
RCW to read as follows:

- (1) The department shall develop an individual reentry plan for every offender who is committed to the department of corrections except:
- (a) Offenders who are sentenced to life without the possibility of release; and
  - (b) Offenders who are subject to the provisions of 8 U.S.C. 1227.
- (2)(a) In developing individual reentry plans, the department shall assess all offenders using standardized and comprehensive tools to identify the criminogenic risks, programmatic needs, employability, and educational and vocational skill levels for each offender.
  - (b) Each plan must include, if appropriate, a plan to maintain contact with the offender's children and family. The plan should determine whether parenting classes or other services are appropriate to facilitate successful reunification with the offender's children and family.
    - (3) Individual reentry plans shall take into account:
- (a) The offender's ability to participate in programming or activities due to a mental or physical disability or mental illness; and
- 22 (b) Victim safety concerns and no contact provisions of the 23 judgment and sentence.
  - (4) The initial assessment shall be conducted, whenever possible, within the first six weeks after entry into the department of corrections and shall be periodically reviewed and updated as appropriate.
  - (5)(a) Prior to discharge of any offender, the department shall evaluate the offender's needs and, to the extent possible, connect the offender with existing services and resources that meet those needs, including a plan for the offender to become connected with a community justice center and/or community transition coordination network in the area in which the offender will be residing once released from the correctional system.
- 35 (b) If the department recommends partial confinement in an 36 offender's individual reentry plan, the department shall maximize the 37 period of partial confinement for the offender as allowed pursuant to

section 402 of this act to facilitate the offender's transition to the community.

1 2

3

4 5

6 7

8

10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

2829

30

31

32

3334

35

- (6) The department shall establish mechanisms for sharing information from individual reentry plans to those persons involved with the offender's treatment, programming, and reentry, when deemed appropriate. When technologically feasible, this information shall be shared electronically.
- (7) Nothing in this section creates a vested right in programming, education, or other services.
- (8) The state or a person, individually or in a representative capacity for the state, who is involved in the assessment or screening of an offender for the purpose of creating, amending, maintaining, or implementing an individual reentry plan or who is involved in the delivery of services related to an individual reentry plan as provided in this section, is not liable for selecting one of two or more alternative courses of action even though the course of action chosen results in a poor outcome if the person exercised reasonable care and skill in arriving at the judgment to follow the particular course of action.

# PART IV - PARTIAL CONFINEMENT AND SUPERVISION

**401.** (1) NEW SECTION. Sec. The legislature intends Washington's work release centers be transformed into residential reentry centers with the capacity to provide or connect offenders with the full range of reentry services to achieve measurable outcomes. The Washington state institute for public policy shall conduct a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of residential reentry centers and work release facilities to identify evidence-based, research-based, and promising practices or programs for the state of Washington and the necessary performance measures that show the greatest quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the program on key outcomes. research should include an examination of reentry and work release practices in both urban and rural areas and both inside and outside of the state of Washington. The institute should identify what services or combination of services should be provided to participants of residential reentry centers and the length of time services should be

p. 17 2SSB 5070

1 provided to optimize the successful transition of an offender back into 2 society.

- (2) By May 1, 2008, the secretary of the department of corrections, or the secretary's designee, shall, within existing resources, convene and chair a work group to review current laws and policy regarding work release.
- (3) In addition to the secretary of the department of corrections, the following shall be members of the work group: A representative appointed by the governor, a community corrections officer, a representative of the Washington association of prosecuting attorneys, a member selected by the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs, a representative from the Washington state association of counties, a representative from the association of Washington cities, a representative from contract work release facilities in the state, a representative from state-run work release facilities in the state, a representative from a nonprofit organization that works with former offenders who have completed a work release program, and a representative from the department of community, trade, and economic development. The secretary may designate a person to serve in his or her place. Members of the work group shall serve without compensation.
- (4) In conducting its review, the work group must review and make recommendations for changes to corrections law and policies to ensure that:
- (a) Work release facilities are transformed into residential reentry centers so that participants are provided with a combination of reentry services that conform to evidence-based, research-based, or promising practices as identified by the institute;
- (b) Residential reentry centers lead to meaningful employment for offenders participating in the program;
- (c) A plan is identified to ensure that residential reentry centers are distributed throughout the state;
- (d) Residential reentry centers are of a size consistent with evidence-based, research-based, or promising practices and appropriate to the community in which they are located;
- 35 (e) Communities are given meaningful avenues for ongoing 36 consultation regarding the establishment and operation of residential 37 reentry centers in their area;

1 (f) Victim and community safety concerns are given priority when 2 determining appropriate placement in residential reentry centers for 3 individual offenders;

4 5

6 7

8

16

17

18

19 20

21

2223

24

2526

27

28

- (g) Eligibility time to participate in residential reentry centers is sufficient to make it a meaningful experience for offenders; and
- (h) Programs have the necessary performance measures needed to effectively monitor the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the programs.
- 9 (5)(a) The institute shall report its results and recommendations 10 to the governor and the legislature no later than November 15, 2007.
- 11 (b) The department of corrections shall report the results and 12 recommendations of the work group to the governor and the legislature 13 no later than November 15, 2008.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 402. A new section is added to chapter 72.09
  RCW to read as follows:
  - (1) The department shall continue to establish community justice centers throughout the state for the purpose of providing comprehensive services and monitoring for inmates who are reentering the community.
  - (2) For the purposes of this chapter, "community justice center" is defined as a nonresidential facility staffed primarily by the department in which recently released offenders may access services necessary to improve their successful reentry into the community. Such services may include but are not limited to, those listed in the individual reentry plan, mental health, chemical dependency, sex offender treatment, anger management, parental educational, financial literacy, housing assistance, employment assistance, and community supervision.
    - (3) At a minimum, the community justice center shall include:
- 29 (a) A violator program to allow the department to utilize a range 30 of available sanctions for offenders who violate conditions of their 31 supervision;
- 32 (b) An employment opportunity program to assist an offender in 33 finding employment; and
- 34 (c) Resources for connecting offenders with services such as 35 treatment, transportation, training, family reunification, and 36 community services.

p. 19 2SSB 5070

(4) In addition to any other programs or services offered by a community justice center, the department shall designate a transition coordinator to facilitate connections between the former offender and the community. The department may designate transition coordination services to be provided by a community transition coordination network pursuant to section 103 of this act if one has been established in the community where the community justice center is located and the department has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the county to share resources.

- (5) The transition coordinator shall provide information to former offenders regarding services available to them in the community regardless of the length of time since the offender's release from the correctional facility. The transition coordinator shall, at a minimum, be responsible for the following:
- (a) Gathering and maintaining information regarding services currently existing within the community that are available to offenders including, but not limited to:
- (i) Programs offered through the department of social and health services, the department of health, the department of licensing, housing authorities, local community and technical colleges, other state or federal entities which provide public benefits, and nonprofit entities;
- (ii) Services such as housing assistance, employment assistance, education, vocational training, parent education, financial literacy, treatment for substance abuse, mental health, anger management, and any other service or program that will assist the former offender to successfully transition into the community;
- (b) Coordinating access to the existing services with the community providers and provide offenders with information regarding how to access the various type of services and resources that are available in the community.
- (6)(a) A minimum of six community justice centers shall be operational by December 1, 2009. The six community justice centers include those in operation on the effective date of this section.
- 35 (b) By December 1, 2011, the department shall establish a minimum of three additional community justice centers within the state.
  - (7) In locating new centers, the department shall:

(a) Give priority to the counties with the largest population of offenders who were released from department of corrections custody and that do not already have a community justice center;

- (b) Ensure that at least two centers are operational in eastern Washington; and
- (c) Comply with section 403 of this act and all applicable zoning laws and regulations.
- (8) Before beginning the siting or opening of the new community justice center, the department shall:
- (a) Notify the city, if applicable, and the county within which the community justice center is proposed. Such notice shall occur at least sixty days prior to selecting a specific location to provide the services listed in this section;
- (b) Consult with the community providers listed in subsection (5) of this section to determine if they have the capacity to provide services to offenders through the community justice center; and
- (c) Give due consideration to all comments received in response to the notice of the start of site selection and consultation with community providers.
- (9) The department shall make efforts to enter into memoranda of understanding or agreements with the local community policing and supervision programs as defined in section 101 of this act in which the community justice center is located to address:
- (a) Efficiencies that may be gained by sharing space or resources in the provision of reentry services to offenders, including services provided through a community transition coordination network established pursuant to section 103 of this act if a network has been established in the county;
- (b) Mechanisms for communication of information about offenders, including the feasibility of shared access to databases;
- (c) Partnerships between the department of corrections and local police to supervise offenders. The agreement must address:
- (i) Shared mechanisms to facilitate supervision of offenders under the respective jurisdictions of each which may include activities such as joint emphasis patrols to monitor high-risk offenders, service of bench and secretary warrants and detainers, joint field visits, connecting offenders with services, and, where appropriate, directing offenders into sanction alternatives in lieu of incarceration;

p. 21 2SSB 5070

- 1 (ii) The roles and responsibilities of police officers and 2 corrections staff participating in the partnership; and
- 3 (iii) The amount of corrections staff and police officer time that 4 will be dedicated to partnership efforts.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 403. No later than July 1, 2007, and every 5 6 biennium thereafter starting with the biennium beginning July 1, 2008, 7 the department shall prepare a list of counties and rural multicounty 8 geographic areas in which work release facilities, community justice centers and other community-based facilities are anticipated to be 9 10 sited during the next three fiscal years and transmit the list to the office of financial management and the counties on the list. The list 11 may be updated as needed. 12

13 **Sec. 404.** RCW 9.94A.728 and 2004 c 176 s 6 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

No person serving a sentence imposed pursuant to this chapter and committed to the custody of the department shall leave the confines of the correctional facility or be released prior to the expiration of the sentence except as follows:

(1) Except as otherwise provided for in subsection (2) of this section, the term of the sentence of an offender committed to a correctional facility operated by the department may be reduced by earned release time in accordance with procedures that shall be and promulgated by the correctional developed agency jurisdiction in which the offender is confined. The earned release time shall be for good behavior and good performance, as determined by the correctional agency having jurisdiction. The correctional agency shall not credit the offender with earned release credits in advance of the offender actually earning the credits. Any program established pursuant to this section shall allow an offender to earn early release credits for presentence incarceration. If an offender is transferred from a county jail to the department, the administrator of a county jail facility shall certify to the department the amount of time spent in custody at the facility and the amount of earned release time. offender who has been convicted of a felony committed after July 23, 1995, that involves any applicable deadly weapon enhancements under RCW

2SSB 5070 p. 22

15

16 17

18

19 20

2122

23

2425

26

27

2829

30

31

32

3334

35

- 9.94A.533 (3) or (4), or both, shall not receive any good time credits or earned release time for that portion of his or her sentence that results from any deadly weapon enhancements.
- (a) In the case of an offender convicted of a serious violent 4 5 offense, or a sex offense that is a class A felony, committed on or after July 1, 1990, and before July 1, 2003, the aggregate earned 6 7 release time may not exceed fifteen percent of the sentence. In the case of an offender convicted of a serious violent offense, or a sex 8 offense that is a class A felony, committed on or after July 1, 2003, 9 the aggregate earned release time may not exceed ten percent of the 10 sentence. 11
- (b)(i) In the case of an offender who qualifies under (b)(ii) of this subsection, the aggregate earned release time may not exceed fifty percent of the sentence.
- (ii) An offender is qualified to earn up to fifty percent of aggregate earned release time under this subsection (1)(b) if he or she:
- 18 (A) Is classified in one of the two lowest risk categories under 19 (b)(iii) of this subsection;
  - (B) Is not confined pursuant to a sentence for:
- 21 (I) A sex offense;

- 22 (II) A violent offense;
- 23 (III) A crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411;
- 24 (IV) A felony that is domestic violence as defined in RCW 25 10.99.020;
- 26 (V) A violation of RCW 9A.52.025 (residential burglary);
- (VI) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.401 by manufacture or delivery or possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine; or
- (VII) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.406 (delivery of a controlled substance to a minor);

  ((and))
- 33 (C) Has no prior conviction for:
- 34 (I) A sex offense;
- 35 (II) A violent offense;
- 36 (III) A crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411;
- 37 (IV) A felony that is domestic violence as defined in RCW 38 10.99.020;

p. 23 2SSB 5070

- (V) A violation of RCW 9A.52.025 (residential burglary);
- 2 (VI) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to 3 violate, RCW 69.50.401 by manufacture or delivery or possession with 4 intent to deliver methamphetamine; or
  - (VII) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.406 (delivery of a controlled substance to a minor); and
  - (D) Participates in programming or activities as directed by the offender's individual reentry plan as provided under section 302 of this act to the extent that such programming or activities are made available by the department.
  - (iii) For purposes of determining an offender's eligibility under this subsection (1)(b), the department shall perform a risk assessment of every offender committed to a correctional facility operated by the department who has no current or prior conviction for a sex offense, a violent offense, a crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411, a felony that is domestic violence as defined in RCW 10.99.020, a violation of RCW 9A.52.025 (residential burglary), a violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.401 by manufacture or delivery or possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine, or a violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.406 (delivery of a controlled substance to a minor). The department must classify each assessed offender in one of four risk categories between highest and lowest risk.
    - (iv) The department shall recalculate the earned release time and reschedule the expected release dates for each qualified offender under this subsection (1)(b).
    - (v) This subsection (1)(b) applies retroactively to eligible offenders serving terms of total confinement in a state correctional facility as of July 1, 2003.
  - (vi) This subsection (1)(b) does not apply to offenders convicted after July 1, 2010.
- 34 (c) In no other case shall the aggregate earned release time exceed 35 one-third of the total sentence;
- 36 (2)(a) A person convicted of a sex offense or an offense 37 categorized as a serious violent offense, assault in the second degree, 38 vehicular homicide, vehicular assault, assault of a child in the second

degree, any crime against persons where it is determined in accordance with RCW 9.94A.602 that the offender or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of commission, or any felony offense under chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW, committed before July 1, 2000, may become eligible, in accordance with a program developed by the department, for transfer to community custody status in lieu of earned release time pursuant to subsection (1) of this section;

- (b) A person convicted of a sex offense, a violent offense, any crime against persons under RCW 9.94A.411(2), or a felony offense under chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW, committed on or after July 1, 2000, may become eligible, in accordance with a program developed by the department, for transfer to community custody status in lieu of earned release time pursuant to subsection (1) of this section;
- (c) The department shall, as a part of its program for release to the community in lieu of earned release, require the offender to propose a release plan that includes an approved residence and living arrangement. All offenders with community placement or community custody terms eligible for release to community custody status in lieu of earned release shall provide an approved residence and living arrangement prior to release to the community;
- (d) The department may deny transfer to community custody status in lieu of earned release time pursuant to subsection (1) of this section if the department determines an offender's release plan, including proposed residence location and living arrangements, may violate the conditions of the sentence or conditions of supervision, place the offender at risk to violate the conditions of the sentence, place the offender at risk to reoffend, or present a risk to victim safety or community safety. The department's authority under this section is independent of any court-ordered condition of sentence or statutory provision regarding conditions for community custody or community placement;
- (e) If the department denies transfer to community custody status in lieu of earned early release pursuant to (d) of this subsection, the department may transfer an offender to partial confinement in lieu of earned early release up to three months. The three months in partial confinement is in addition to that portion of the offender's term of confinement that may be served in partial confinement as provided in this section;

p. 25 2SSB 5070

(<u>f</u>) An offender serving a term of confinement imposed under RCW 9.94A.670(4)(a) is not eligible for earned release credits under this section;

- (3) An offender may leave a correctional facility pursuant to an authorized furlough or leave of absence. In addition, offenders may leave a correctional facility when in the custody of a corrections officer or officers;
- (4)(a) The secretary may authorize an extraordinary medical placement for an offender when all of the following conditions exist:
- (i) The offender has a medical condition that is serious enough to require costly care or treatment;
- (ii) The offender poses a low risk to the community because he or she is physically incapacitated due to age or the medical condition; and
- 15 (iii) Granting the extraordinary medical placement will result in 16 a cost savings to the state.
  - (b) An offender sentenced to death or to life imprisonment without the possibility of release or parole is not eligible for an extraordinary medical placement.
  - (c) The secretary shall require electronic monitoring for all offenders in extraordinary medical placement unless the electronic monitoring equipment interferes with the function of the offender's medical equipment or results in the loss of funding for the offender's medical care. The secretary shall specify who shall provide the monitoring services and the terms under which the monitoring shall be performed.
  - (d) The secretary may revoke an extraordinary medical placement under this subsection at any time;
  - (5) The governor, upon recommendation from the clemency and pardons board, may grant an extraordinary release for reasons of serious health problems, senility, advanced age, extraordinary meritorious acts, or other extraordinary circumstances;
  - (6) No more than the final six months of the ((sentence)) offender's term of confinement may be served in partial confinement designed to aid the offender in finding work and reestablishing himself or herself in the community. This is in addition to that period of earned early release time that may be exchanged for partial confinement pursuant to subsection (2)(e) of this section;

(7) The governor may pardon any offender;

1 2

3

4

5

6 7

8

10

11

1213

14

19

20

21

24

2526

31

32

- (8) The department may release an offender from confinement any time within ten days before a release date calculated under this section; and
  - (9) An offender may leave a correctional facility prior to completion of his or her sentence if the sentence has been reduced as provided in RCW 9.94A.870.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, an offender sentenced for a felony crime listed in RCW 9.94A.540 as subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of total confinement shall not be released from total confinement before the completion of the listed mandatory minimum sentence for that felony crime of conviction unless allowed under RCW 9.94A.540, however persistent offenders are not eligible for extraordinary medical placement.

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 405. (1) The secretary of the department of corrections, or the secretary's designee, shall within existing resources, review current laws and policy regarding the supervision of offenders through the department of corrections.
  - (2) In conducting its review, the department must:
  - (a) Standardize community corrections practices across the state and review field supervision policies to clarify expectations;
- 22 (b) Address the training needs of community corrections staff 23 consistent with department practices and policies;
  - (c) Review the workloads of community corrections officers and other staff associated with supervision activities, including the utilization of specialized caseloads and field offices;
- 27 (d) Review the supervision violation hearings and sanctions process 28 to:
- 29 (i) Address recommendations identified in the assessment conducted 30 by the national institute of corrections;
  - (ii) Improve the ability to respond appropriately and effectively sanction an offender's behavior; and
- 33 (iii) Ensure appropriate standards for the due process rights of 34 offenders and that those standards are consistently upheld;
- 35 (e) Increase options and application of evidence-based, 36 research-based, and promising practices for offenders on supervision, 37 including those with chemical dependency issues;

p. 27 2SSB 5070

- 1 (f) Standardize and implement consistent quality assurance 2 standards for community corrections staff; and
  - (g) Review mechanisms to provide better access to information by community corrections officers about the offenders they are supervising including statutory changes to confidentiality provisions and utilization of automation and technology.
  - (3) The department of corrections shall present a progress report of the findings and recommendations to the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature by November 15, 2007, with a final report due by November 15, 2008.
    - (4) This section expires December 15, 2008.

- **Sec. 406.** RCW 9.94A.850 and 2005 c 282 s 19 are each amended to read as follows:
- 14 (1) A sentencing guidelines commission is established as an agency 15 of state government.
  - (2) The legislature finds that the commission, having accomplished its original statutory directive to implement this chapter, and having expertise in sentencing practice and policies, shall:
  - (a) Evaluate state sentencing policy, to include whether the sentencing ranges and standards are consistent with and further:
    - (i) The purposes of this chapter as defined in RCW 9.94A.010; and
  - (ii) The intent of the legislature to emphasize confinement for the violent offender and alternatives to confinement for the nonviolent offender.

The commission shall provide the governor and the legislature with its evaluation and recommendations under this subsection not later than December 1, 1996, and every two years thereafter;

- (b) Recommend to the legislature revisions or modifications to the standard sentence ranges, state sentencing policy, prosecuting standards, and other standards. If implementation of the revisions or modifications would result in exceeding the capacity of correctional facilities, then the commission shall accompany its recommendation with an additional list of standard sentence ranges which are consistent with correction capacity;
- 35 (c) Study the existing criminal code and from time to time make 36 recommendations to the legislature for modification;

(d)(i) Serve as a clearinghouse and information center for the collection, preparation, analysis, and dissemination of information on state and local adult and juvenile sentencing practices; (ii) develop and maintain a computerized adult and juvenile sentencing information system by individual superior court judge consisting of offender, offense, history, and sentence information entered from judgment and sentence forms for all adult felons; and (iii) conduct ongoing research regarding adult and juvenile sentencing guidelines, use of total confinement and alternatives to total confinement, plea bargaining, and other matters relating to the improvement of the adult criminal justice system and the juvenile justice system;

- (e) Assume the powers and duties of the juvenile disposition standards commission after June 30, 1996;
- (f) Evaluate the effectiveness of existing disposition standards and related statutes in implementing policies set forth in RCW 13.40.010 generally, specifically review the guidelines relating to the confinement of minor and first-time offenders as well as the use of diversion, and review the application of current and proposed juvenile sentencing standards and guidelines for potential adverse impacts on the sentencing outcomes of racial and ethnic minority youth;
- (g) Solicit the comments and suggestions of the juvenile justice community concerning disposition standards, and make recommendations to the legislature regarding revisions or modifications of the standards. The evaluations shall be submitted to the legislature on December 1 of each odd-numbered year. The department of social and health services shall provide the commission with available data concerning the implementation of the disposition standards and related statutes and their effect on the performance of the department's responsibilities relating to juvenile offenders, and with recommendations for modification of the disposition standards. The administrative office of the courts shall provide the commission with available data on diversion, including the use of youth court programs, and dispositions of juvenile offenders under chapter 13.40 RCW; and
- (h) Not later than December 1, 1997, and at least every two years thereafter, based on available information, report to the governor and the legislature on:
  - (i) Racial disproportionality in juvenile and adult sentencing,

p. 29 2SSB 5070

and, if available, the impact that diversions, such as youth courts, have on racial disproportionality in juvenile prosecution, adjudication, and sentencing;

- (ii) The capacity of state and local juvenile and adult facilities and resources; and
  - (iii) Recidivism information on adult and juvenile offenders.
- (3) Each of the commission's recommended standard sentence ranges shall include one or more of the following: Total confinement, partial confinement, community supervision, community restitution, and a fine.
- (4) The standard sentence ranges of total and partial confinement under this chapter, except as provided in RCW 9.94A.517, are subject to the following limitations:
- (a) If the maximum term in the range is one year or less, the minimum term in the range shall be no less than one-third of the maximum term in the range, except that if the maximum term in the range is ninety days or less, the minimum term may be less than one-third of the maximum;
- (b) If the maximum term in the range is greater than one year, the minimum term in the range shall be no less than seventy-five percent of the maximum term in the range, except that for murder in the second degree in seriousness level XIV under RCW 9.94A.510, the minimum term in the range shall be no less than fifty percent of the maximum term in the range; and
- (c) The maximum term of confinement in a range may not exceed the statutory maximum for the crime as provided in RCW 9A.20.021.
- (5)(a) Not later than December 31, 1999, the commission shall propose to the legislature the initial community custody ranges to be included in sentences under RCW 9.94A.715 for crimes committed on or after July 1, 2000. Not later than December 31 of each year, the commission may propose modifications to the ranges. The ranges shall be based on the principles in RCW 9.94A.010, and shall take into account the funds available to the department for community custody. The minimum term in each range shall not be less than one-half of the maximum term.
- 35 (b) The legislature may, by enactment of a legislative bill, adopt 36 or modify the community custody ranges proposed by the commission. If 37 the legislature fails to adopt or modify the initial ranges in its next

- regular session after they are proposed, the proposed ranges shall take effect without legislative approval for crimes committed on or after July 1, 2000.
- (c) When the commission proposes modifications to ranges pursuant to this subsection, the legislature may, by enactment of a bill, adopt or modify the ranges proposed by the commission for crimes committed on or after July 1 of the year after they were proposed. Unless the legislature adopts or modifies the commission's proposal in its next regular session, the proposed ranges shall not take effect.
- 10 (6) The commission shall review state sentencing laws and policy in order to simplify supervision requirements and allow community corrections officers to more easily identify statutory requirements associated with an offender's sentence. Not later than December 31, 2007, the commission shall report to the legislature on any recommendations for changes to existing statutes.
- 16 <u>(7)</u> The commission shall exercise its duties under this section in conformity with chapter 34.05 RCW.

# 18 PART V - EDUCATION

1 2

3

4 5

6 7

8

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

2829

30

- 19 **Sec. 501.** RCW 72.09.460 and 2004 c 167 s 5 are each amended to 20 read as follows:
  - (1) The legislature intends that all inmates be required to participate in department-approved education programs, work programs, or both, unless exempted ((under subsection (4) of)) as specifically provided in this section. Eligible inmates who refuse to participate in available education or work programs available at no charge to the inmates shall lose privileges according to the system established under RCW 72.09.130. Eligible inmates who are required to contribute financially to an education or work program and refuse to contribute shall be placed in another work program. Refusal to contribute shall not result in a loss of privileges.
- 31 (2) The legislature recognizes more inmates may agree to 32 participate in education and work programs than are available. The 33 department must make every effort to achieve maximum public benefit by 34 placing inmates in available and appropriate education and work 35 programs.

p. 31 2SSB 5070

(((2) The department shall provide access to a program of education to all offenders who are under the age of eighteen and who have not met high school graduation or general equivalency diploma requirements in accordance with chapter 28A.193 RCW. The program of education established by the department and education provider under RCW 28A.193.020 for offenders under the age of eighteen must provide each offender a choice of curriculum that will assist the inmate in achieving a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma. The program of education may include but not be limited to basic education, prevocational training, work ethic skills, conflict resolution counseling, substance abuse intervention, and anger management counseling. The curriculum may balance these and other rehabilitation, work, and training components.))

- (3)(a) The department shall, to the extent possible and considering all available funds, prioritize its resources to meet the following goals for inmates in the order listed:
- $((\frac{a}{a}))$  <u>(i)</u> Achievement of basic academic skills through obtaining 18 a high school diploma or its equivalent  $(\frac{and}{a})$ :
  - (ii) Achievement of vocational skills necessary for purposes of work programs and for an inmate to qualify for work upon release;
  - (((b) Additional work and education programs based on assessments and placements under subsection (5) of this section; and
    - (c) Other work and education programs as appropriate.
  - (4) The department shall establish, by rule, objective medical standards to determine when an inmate is physically or mentally unable to participate in available education or work programs. When the department determines an inmate is permanently unable to participate in any available education or work program due to a medical condition, the inmate is exempt from the requirement under subsection (1) of this section. When the department determines an inmate is temporarily unable to participate in an education or work program due to a medical condition, the inmate is exempt from the requirement of subsection (1) of this section for the period of time he or she is temporarily disabled. The department shall periodically review the medical condition of all temporarily disabled inmates to ensure the earliest possible entry or reentry by inmates into available programming.
    - (5) The department shall establish, by rule, standards for

participation in department approved education and work programs. The standards shall address the following areas:

- (a) Assessment. The department shall assess all inmates for their basic academic skill levels using a professionally accepted method of scoring reading, math, and language skills as grade level equivalents. The department shall determine an inmate's education history, work history, and vocational or work skills. The initial assessment shall be conducted, whenever possible, within the first thirty days of an inmate's entry into the correctional system, except that initial assessments are not required for inmates who are sentenced to life without the possibility of release, assigned to an intensive management unit within the first thirty days after entry into the correctional system, are returning to the correctional system within one year of a prior release, or whose physical or mental condition renders them unable to complete the assessment process. The department shall track and record changes in the basic academic skill levels of all inmates reflected in any testing or assessment performed as part of their education programming;
- (b) Placement. The department shall follow the policies set forth in subsection (1) of this section in establishing criteria for placing inmates in education and work programs. The department shall, to the extent possible, place all inmates whose composite grade level score for basic academic skills is below the eighth grade level in a combined education and work program. The placement criteria shall include at least the following factors)) (iii) Additional work and education programs necessary for compliance with an offender's individual reentry plan under section 302 of this act with the exception of postsecondary education degree programs as provided in section 502 of this act; and
- (iv) Other appropriate vocational, work, or education programs that are not necessary for compliance with an offender's individual reentry plan under section 302 of this act with the exception of postsecondary education degree programs as provided in section 502 of this act.
- (b) If programming is provided pursuant to (a)(i) through (iii) of this subsection, the department shall pay the cost of such programming, including but not limited to books, materials, supplies, and postage costs related to correspondence courses.
- (c) If programming is provided pursuant to (a)(iv) of this subsection, inmates shall be required to pay all or a portion of the

p. 33 2SSB 5070

- costs, including books, fees, and tuition, for participation in any vocational, work, or education program as provided in department policies. Department policies shall include a formula for determining how much an offender shall be required to pay. The formula shall include steps which correlate to an offender average monthly income or average available balance in a personal inmate savings account and which are correlated to a prorated portion or percent of the per credit fee for tuition, books, or other ancillary costs. The formula shall be reviewed every two years. A third party may pay directly to the department all or a portion of costs and tuition for any programming provided pursuant to (a)(iv) of this subsection on behalf of an inmate. Such payments shall not be subject to any of the deductions as provided in this chapter.
  - (d) The department may accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services from any third party, including but not limited to nonprofit entities, and may receive, utilize, and dispose of same to complete the purposes of this section.
  - (e) Any funds collected by the department under (c) and (d) of this subsection and subsections (8) and (9) of this section shall be used solely for the creation, maintenance, or expansion of inmate educational and vocational programs.
  - (4) The department shall provide access to a program of education to all offenders who are under the age of twenty-two and who have not met high school graduation or general equivalency diploma requirements in accordance with chapter 28A.193 RCW. The program of education established by the department and education provider under RCW 28A.193.020 for offenders under the age of twenty-two must provide each offender a choice of curriculum that will assist the inmate in achieving a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma. The program of education may include but not be limited to basic education, prevocational training, work ethic skills, conflict resolution counseling, substance abuse intervention, and anger management counseling. The curriculum may balance these and other rehabilitation, work, and training components.
- 36 <u>(5)(a) In addition to the policies set forth in this section, the</u> 37 <u>department shall consider the following factors in establishing</u>

2SSB 5070 p. 34

criteria for assessing the inclusion of education and work programs in an inmate's individual reentry plan and in placing inmates in education and work programs:

- (i) An inmate's release date and custody level. An inmate shall not be precluded from participating in an education or work program solely on the basis of his or her release date, except that inmates with a release date of more than one hundred twenty months in the future shall not comprise more than ten percent of inmates participating in a new class I correctional industry not in existence on June 10, 2004;
  - (ii) An inmate's education history and basic academic skills;
- (iii) An inmate's work history and vocational or work skills;
- 13 (iv) An inmate's economic circumstances, including but not limited 14 to an inmate's family support obligations; and
  - (v) Where applicable, an inmate's prior performance in departmentapproved education or work programs;
    - (((c) Performance and goals.)) (b) The department shall establish, and periodically review, inmate behavior standards and program goals for all education and work programs. Inmates shall be notified of applicable behavior standards and program goals prior to placement in an education or work program and shall be removed from the education or work program if they consistently fail to meet the standards or goals(( $\dot{\tau}$
    - (d) Financial responsibility. (i) The department shall establish a formula by which inmates, based on their ability to pay, shall pay all or a portion of the costs or tuition of certain programs. Inmates shall, based on the formula, pay a portion of the costs or tuition of participation in:
    - (A) Second and subsequent vocational programs associated with an inmate's work programs; and
    - (B) An associate of arts or baccalaureate degree program when placement in a degree program is the result of a placement made under this subsection;
      - (ii) Inmates shall pay all costs and tuition for participation in:
- 35 (A) Any postsecondary academic degree program which is entered 36 independently of a placement decision made under this subsection; and
  - (B) Second and subsequent vocational programs not associated with an inmate's work program.

p. 35 2SSB 5070

Enrollment in any program specified in (d)(ii) of this subsection shall only be allowed by correspondence or if there is an opening in an education or work program at the institution where an inmate is incarcerated and no other inmate who is placed in a program under this subsection will be displaced; and

- (e) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, an inmate sentenced to life without the possibility of release:
- (i) Shall not be required to participate in education programming; and
- (ii) May receive not more than one postsecondary academic degree in a program offered by the department or its contracted providers.
- If an inmate sentenced to life without the possibility of release requires prevocational or vocational training for a work program, he or she may participate in the training subject to this section.
- (6) The department shall coordinate education and work programs among its institutions, to the greatest extent possible, to facilitate continuity of programming among inmates transferred between institutions. Before transferring an inmate enrolled in a program, the department shall consider the effect the transfer will have on the inmate's ability to continue or complete a program. This subsection shall not be used to delay or prohibit a transfer necessary for legitimate safety or security concerns.
- (7) Before construction of a new correctional institution or expansion of an existing correctional institution, the department shall adopt a plan demonstrating how cable, closed-circuit, and satellite television will be used for education and training purposes in the institution. The plan shall specify how the use of television in the education and training programs will improve inmates' preparedness for available work programs and job opportunities for which inmates may qualify upon release.
- (8) The department shall adopt a plan to reduce the per pupil cost of instruction by, among other methods, increasing the use of volunteer instructors and implementing technological efficiencies. The plan shall be adopted by December 1996 and shall be transmitted to the legislature upon adoption. The department shall, in adoption of the plan, consider distance learning, satellite instruction, video tape usage, computer aided instruction, and flexible scheduling of offender instruction.

(9) Following completion of the review required by section 27(3), chapter 19, Laws of 1995 1st sp. sess. the department shall take all necessary steps to assure the vocation and education programs are relevant to work programs and skills necessary to enhance the employability of inmates upon release)).

1 2

- (6) Eligible inmates who refuse to participate in available education or work programs available at no charge to the inmates shall lose privileges according to the system established under RCW 72.09.130. Eligible inmates who are required to contribute financially to an education or work program and refuse to contribute shall be placed in another work program. Refusal to contribute shall not result in a loss of privileges.
- (7) The department shall establish, by rule, objective medical standards to determine when an inmate is physically or mentally unable to participate in available education or work programs. When the department determines an inmate is permanently unable to participate in any available education or work program due to a medical condition, the inmate is exempt from the requirement under subsection (1) of this section. When the department determines an inmate is temporarily unable to participate in an education or work program due to a medical condition, the inmate is exempt from the requirement of subsection (1) of this section for the period of time he or she is temporarily disabled. The department shall periodically review the medical condition of all inmates with temporary disabilities to ensure the earliest possible entry or reentry by inmates into available programming.
- (8) The department shall establish policies requiring an offender to pay all or a portion of the costs and tuition for any vocational training or postsecondary education program if the offender completed more than two hundred hours in the program and then withdrew from participation without approval from the department. Department policies shall include a formula for determining how much an offender shall be required to pay. The formula shall include steps which correlate to an offender average monthly income or average available balance in a personal inmate savings account and which are correlated to a prorated portion or percent of the per credit fee for tuition, books, or other ancillary costs. The formula shall be reviewed every two years. A third party may pay directly to the department all or a

p. 37 2SSB 5070

portion of costs and tuition for any program on behalf of an inmate under this subsection. Such payments shall not be subject to any of the deductions as provided in this chapter.

4

5

6 7

8

20

21

22

23

24

2526

2728

2930

31

32

33

34

3536

- (9) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, an inmate sentenced to life without the possibility of release or subject to the provisions of 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1227:
- (a) Shall not be required to participate in education programming except as may be necessary for the maintenance of discipline and security;
- 10 (b) May receive not more than one postsecondary academic degree in 11 a program offered by the department or its contracted providers;
- 12 (c) May participate in prevocational or vocational training that
  13 may be necessary to participate in a work program;
- (d) Shall be subject to the applicable provisions of this chapter relating to inmate financial responsibility for programming except the postsecondary education degree loan program as provided in section 502(3) of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 502. A new section is added to chapter 72.09
  RCW to read as follows:
  - (1) The department shall, if funds are appropriated for the specific purpose, implement postsecondary education degree programs within state correctional institutions, including the state correctional institution with the largest population of female inmates. The department shall consider for inclusion in any postsecondary education degree program, any postsecondary education degree program from an accredited community college, college, or university that is part of an associate of arts, baccalaureate, masters of arts, or other graduate degree program.
  - (2) Inmates shall be required to pay the costs for participation in any postsecondary education degree programs established under this subsection, including books, fees, tuition, or any other appropriate ancillary costs, by one or more of the following means:
  - (a) The inmate who is participating in the postsecondary education degree program shall, during confinement, provide the required payment or payments to the department;
    - (b) A third party shall provide the required payment or payments

directly to the department on behalf of an inmate, and such payments shall not be subject to any of the deductions as provided in this chapter; or

- (c) The inmate who is participating in the postsecondary education degree program shall provide the required payment or payments to the department using loan funds obtained from the department's postsecondary education degree loan program created pursuant to subsection (3) of this section.
- (3) The department shall, if funds are appropriated for the specific purpose, establish by rule a postsecondary education degree loan program for inmates seeking to participate in available postsecondary education degree programs. The department shall establish a process for awarding loans to inmates, including an application process and criteria for awarding loans. The department shall collect repayment as provided in section 504 of this act. A third party may pay directly to the department all or a portion of any loan on behalf of an inmate. Such payments shall not be subject to any of the deductions as provided in this chapter. Inmates under RCW 72.09.460(9) are not eligible to participate in the postsecondary education degree loan program.
- (4) The department may accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services from any third party, including but not limited to nonprofit entities, and may receive, utilize, and dispose of same to complete the purposes of this section.
- (5) Any funds collected by the department under this section and RCW 72.09.450(4) shall be used solely for the creation, maintenance, or expansion of inmate postsecondary education degree programs.
- **Sec. 503.** RCW 72.09.480 and 2003 c 271 s 3 are each amended to 30 read as follows:
- 31 (1) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions 32 in this section apply to this section.
- 33 (a) "Cost of incarceration" means the cost of providing an inmate 34 with shelter, food, clothing, transportation, supervision, and other 35 services and supplies as may be necessary for the maintenance and 36 support of the inmate while in the custody of the department, based on

p. 39 2SSB 5070

the average per inmate costs established by the department and the office of financial management.

- (b) "Minimum term of confinement" means the minimum amount of time an inmate will be confined in the custody of the department, considering the sentence imposed and adjusted for the total potential earned early release time available to the inmate.
- (c) "Program" means any series of courses or classes necessary to achieve a proficiency standard, certificate, or postsecondary degree.
- (2) When an inmate, except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, receives any funds in addition to his or her wages or gratuities, except settlements or awards resulting from legal action, the additional funds shall be subject to the following deductions and the priorities established in chapter 72.11 RCW:
- (a) Five percent to the public safety and education account for the purpose of crime victims' compensation;
  - (b) Ten percent to a department personal inmate savings account;
- (c) Twenty percent to the department to contribute to the cost of incarceration;
- (d) Twenty percent for payment of legal financial obligations for all inmates who have legal financial obligations owing in any Washington state superior court; and
- 22 (e) Fifteen percent for any child support owed under a support 23 order.
  - (3) When an inmate, except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, receives any funds from a settlement or award resulting from a legal action, the additional funds shall be subject to the deductions in RCW 72.09.111(1)(a) and the priorities established in chapter 72.11 RCW.
  - (4) The amount deducted from an inmate's funds under subsection (2) of this section shall not exceed the department's total cost of incarceration for the inmate incurred during the inmate's minimum or actual term of confinement, whichever is longer.
  - (5)(a) The deductions required under subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to funds received by the department <u>from an offender or from a third party</u> on behalf of an offender for payment of ((<del>one feebased</del>)) education or vocational programs ((that is associated with an inmate's work program or a placement decision made by the department under RCW 72.09.460 to prepare an inmate for work upon release.

An inmate may, prior to the completion of the fee based education or vocational program authorized under this subsection, apply to a person designated by the secretary for permission to make a change in his or her program. The secretary, or his or her designee, may approve the application based solely on the following criteria: (a) The inmate has been transferred to another institution by the department for reasons unrelated to education or a change to a higher security classification and the offender's current program is unavailable in the offender's new placement; (b) the inmate entered an academic program as an undeclared major and wishes to declare a major. No inmate may apply for more than one change to his or her major and receive the exemption from deductions specified in this subsection; (c) the educational or vocational institution is terminating the inmate's current program; or (d) the offender's training or education has demonstrated that the current program is not the appropriate program to assist the offender to achieve a placement decision made by the department under RCW 72.09.460 to prepare the inmate for work upon release)) postsecondary education degree programs as provided in RCW 72.09.460 and section 502 of this act.

1 2

3

4

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16 17

18

19

2021

22

2324

25

2627

28

29

30

3132

33

3435

3637

- (b) The deductions required under subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to funds received by the department from a third party, including but not limited to a nonprofit entity on behalf of the department's education, vocation, or postsecondary education degree programs.
- (6) The deductions required under subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to any money received by the department, on behalf of an inmate, from family or other outside sources for the payment of postage expenses. Money received under this subsection may only be used for the payment of postage expenses and may not be transferred to any other account or purpose. Money that remains unused in the inmate's postage fund at the time of release shall be subject to the deductions outlined in subsection (2) of this section.
- (7) When an inmate sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility of release or parole, or to death under chapter 10.95 RCW, receives any funds in addition to his or her gratuities, except settlements or awards resulting from legal action, the additional funds shall be subject to: Deductions of five percent to the public safety

p. 41 2SSB 5070

and education account for the purpose of crime victims' compensation, twenty percent to the department to contribute to the cost of incarceration, and fifteen percent to child support payments.

- (8) When an inmate sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility of release or parole, or to death under chapter 10.95 RCW, receives any funds from a settlement or award resulting from a legal action in addition to his or her gratuities, the additional funds shall be subject to: Deductions of five percent to the public safety and education account for the purpose of crime victims' compensation and twenty percent to the department to contribute to the cost of incarceration.
- (9) The interest earned on an inmate savings account created as a result of the plan in section 4, chapter 325, Laws of 1999 shall be exempt from the mandatory deductions under this section and RCW 72.09.111.
- (10) Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the department of social and health services division of child support from taking collection action against an inmate's moneys, assets, or property pursuant to chapter 26.23, 74.20, or 74.20A RCW including, but not limited to, the collection of moneys received by the inmate from settlements or awards resulting from legal action.
- **Sec. 504.** RCW 72.09.450 and 1996 c 277 s 1 are each amended to 23 read as follows:
  - (1) An inmate shall not be denied access to services or supplies required by state or federal law solely on the basis of his or her inability to pay for them.
  - (2) The department shall record all lawfully authorized assessments for services or supplies as a debt to the department. The department shall recoup the assessments when the inmate's institutional account exceeds the indigency standard, and may pursue other remedies to recoup the assessments after the period of incarceration.
  - (3) The department shall record as a debt any costs assessed by a court against an inmate plaintiff where the state is providing defense pursuant to chapter 4.92 RCW. The department shall recoup the debt when the inmate's institutional account exceeds the indigency standard and may pursue other remedies to recoup the debt after the period of incarceration.

(4) The department shall record as a debt any loan recorded against an inmate participating in the postsecondary education degree loan program as provided under section 502 of this act. The department shall attempt to recoup the debt not sooner than two years from an inmate's date of release from total or partial confinement and any loan made under this subsection shall not accrue interest at any time. The department may pursue collection of the debt as provided in subsection (5) of this section.

1 2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

11

1213

14

15

16 17

18

19

2021

22

2324

25

26

27

2829

30

3132

3334

3536

37

- (5) In order to maximize the cost-efficient collection of unpaid offender debt existing after the period of an offender's incarceration, the department is authorized to use the following nonexclusive options: (a) Use the collection services available through the department of general administration, or (b) notwithstanding any provision of chapter 41.06 RCW, contract with collection agencies for collection of the The costs for general administration or collection agency services shall be paid by the debtor. Any contract with a collection agency shall only be awarded after competitive bidding. department shall consider in awarding a collection contract include but are not limited to a collection agency's history and reputation in the community; and the agency's access to a local database that may increase the efficiency of its collections. The servicing of an unpaid obligation to the department does not constitute assignment of a debt, and no contract with a collection agency may remove the department's control over unpaid obligations owed to the department.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 505. (1) The department of corrections and the state board for community and technical colleges, in cooperation with the unions representing academic employees in corrections education programs, shall investigate and review methods to optimize educational and vocational programming opportunities to meet the needs of each offender as identified in his or her individual reentry plan both while an offender is under the authority of the department.
  - (2) In conducting its review, the department and state board shall consider and make recommendations regarding:
  - (a) Technological advances which could serve to expand educational programs and vocational training including, but not limited to, distance learning, satellite instruction, videotape usage, computer aided instruction, and flexible scheduling and also considering the

p. 43 2SSB 5070

- 1 infrastructure, resources, and security that would be needed to
- 2 implement the program or training. These advances shall be assessed
- 3 for their ability to provide the most cost-efficient and effective
- 4 programming for offenders;
- 5 (b) Methods to ensure that educational programs and vocational 6 training are relevant to enhance the employability of offenders upon
- 7 release; and
- 8 (c) Long-term methods for maintaining channels of communication
- 9 between the department, state board administration, academic employees,
- 10 and students.
- 11 (3) The department and state board shall report to the governor and
- 12 the legislature no later than November 15, 2007.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 506. (1) The Washington state institute for
- 14 public policy shall conduct a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of
- 15 evidence-based, research-based, and promising correctional education
- 16 programs and the extent to which Washington's programs are in accord
- 17 with these practices. In gathering data regarding correctional
- 18 education programs, the institute may consult with academic employees
- 19 from correctional education programs.
- 20 (2) The institute shall report to the governor and the legislature
- 21 no later than November 15, 2007.

## 22 PART VI - EMPLOYMENT BARRIERS

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 601. A new section is added to chapter 82.04 RCW to read as follows:
- 25 (1) Subject to the limits in this section, a credit is authorized
- 26 against the tax otherwise due under this chapter for persons that
- 27 employ one or more qualifying ex-offenders.
- 28 (2) In order to qualify for the tax credit, the person must, within
- 29 twenty-eight days of the ex-offender's hire date, submit a completed
- 30 application to the employment security department for certification of
- 31 the employee as a qualifying ex-offender under this section.
- 32 (3) The employment security department shall adopt rules and make
- 33 forms available to persons employing ex-offenders to apply for
- 34 certification under this section.
- 35 (4) Credit is only earned when:

(a) The person claiming a credit has received certification from the employment security department that the employee is a qualifying ex-offender; and

- (b) The qualifying ex-offender has worked at least seven hundred eighty hours in the first twelve months following the date the individual was hired by the person claiming the credit under this section.
- (5) The amount of the credit is equal to one thousand dollars per qualifying ex-offender and may be used against any tax due under this chapter. Credit may only be claimed against taxes due for reporting periods ending after the credit is earned. Unused credit earned in one calendar year may be carried over and claimed against taxes due for the subsequent calendar year. No refunds may be granted for credits under this section that are in excess of taxes due and payable for the reporting period.
- (6) Submittal of the certification to the department is not required to claim the credit under this section. The person claiming the credit must keep a copy of the certification on file to allow the department to verify eligibility under this section if necessary.
- (7) A person claiming credit under this section shall not claim credit under section 602 of this act with respect to the same qualifying ex-offender.
- (8) As used in this section, "qualifying ex-offender" means an individual who: (a) Has been convicted of a felony under any statute of the United States or any state; and (b) is hired by the person claiming the credit under this section within one year of being convicted of the felony or, if the individual served a prison sentence for the conviction, of being released from confinement.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 602. A new section is added to chapter 82.16 RCW to read as follows:
- 31 (1) A credit is authorized against the tax otherwise due under this 32 chapter for persons that employ one or more qualifying ex-offenders.
- 33 (2) The provisions for the credit authorized in section 601 of this 34 act apply to this section.
- 35 (3) A person claiming credit under this section may not claim 36 credit under section 601 of this act with respect to the same 37 qualifying ex-offender.

p. 45 2SSB 5070

NEW SECTION. Sec. 603. On or before October 1, 2007, the department of corrections and the department of licensing shall enter into an agreement establishing expedited procedures to assist offenders in obtaining a driver's license or identification card upon their release from a department of corrections' institution.

- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 604.** (1) By July 1, 2007, the director of the department of licensing, or the director's designee, shall, within existing resources, convene and chair a work group to review and recommend changes to occupational licensing laws and policies to encourage the employment of individuals with criminal convictions while ensuring the safety of the public.
- (2) In addition to the director of the department of licensing, the following shall be members of the work group: A representative from the employment security department, a representative from the department of corrections, and up to five members appointed by the governor from state agencies that issue occupational licenses. The department shall also invite participation from victim service agencies, the state board for community and technical colleges, association of Washington business, nonprofit organizations providing workforce training to released offenders, and legislative staff who provide support to the human services and human services and corrections committees. Members of the work group shall serve without compensation.
  - (3) In conducting its review, the work group must:
- (a) Review approaches used by other states and jurisdictions for awarding occupational licenses to those with criminal convictions;
- (b) Develop a process and standards by which the department of licensing and licensing agencies will determine whether a criminal conviction renders an applicant an unsuitable candidate for a license or whether a conviction warrants revocation or suspension of a license previously granted;
- (c) Develop guidelines for potential applicants that reflect the most common or well-known categories of crimes and their relation to specific license types;
- 35 (d) Establish mechanisms for making information regarding the 36 process and guidelines easily accessible to potential applicants with 37 criminal histories.

- 1 (4) The department of licensing shall present a report of its 2 findings and recommendations to the governor and the appropriate 3 committees of the legislature, including any proposed legislation, by 4 November 15, 2007.
  - (5) This section expires December 15, 2007.

### 6 PART VII - HOUSING

5

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 701. The legislature finds that, in order to improve the safety of our communities, more housing needs to be made available to offenders returning to the community. The legislature intends to increase the housing available to offenders by providing that landlords who rent to offenders shall be immune from civil liability for damages that may result from the criminal conduct of the tenant.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 702. A new section is added to chapter 59.18
  RCW to read as follows:
- A landlord who rents to an offender is not liable for civil damages arising from the criminal conduct of the tenant. In order for a landlord to be protected from liability as provided under this section, a landlord must disclose to residents of the property that he or she rents or has a policy of renting to offenders.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 703. A new section is added to chapter 35.82 RCW to read as follows:
- 23 The legislature recognizes that stable, habitable, and supportive housing is a critical factor that increases a previously incarcerated 24 individual's access to treatment and services as well as the likelihood 25 26 of success in the community. Housing authorities are therefore 27 encouraged to formulate rental policies that are not unduly burdensome 28 to previously incarcerated individuals attempting to reenter the 29 community, particularly when the individual's family may already reside in government subsidized housing. 30
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 704. A new section is added to chapter 43.185C RCW to read as follows:
- 33 (1) The offender reentry transitional housing assistance program is

p. 47 2SSB 5070

- 1 created in the department of community, trade, and economic development
- 2 to assist homeless offenders secure and retain safe, decent, and
- 3 affordable housing. Within funds appropriated under this section, the
- 4 department shall provide grants to eligible organizations, as described
- 5 in RCW 43.185.060, to provide assistance to program participants. The
- 6 eligible organizations must use grant moneys for:

7

8

10

11

1213

14

15 16

17

18

21

22

2324

25

2627

28

2930

31

32

33

34

- (a) Rental assistance, which includes security or utility deposits, first and last month's rent assistance, and eligible moving expenses to be determined by the department;
  - (b) Case management services designed to assist program participants to secure and retain immediate housing and to transition into permanent housing and greater levels of self-sufficiency;
  - (c) Contracts with supportive housing facilities to exclusively provide housing for homeless offenders. Supportive housing is housing that will provide a structured living environment for offenders to assist an offender in developing the interpersonal and social survival skills necessary to be independent and self-reliant in mainstream society; and
- 19 (d) Administrative costs of the eligible organization, which must 20 not exceed limits prescribed by the department.
  - (2) Eligible to receive assistance up to twelve months through the offender reentry transitional housing assistance program are offenders who:
    - (a) Will be released or were released within the last six months from a correctional facility operated by the department of corrections;
    - (b) Are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and have household incomes at or below fifty percent of the median household income for their county;
  - (c) Have not been found to have violated conditions of his or her supervision on two or more separate occasions.
    - (3) In providing assistance, priority shall be given to offenders who are designated as high risk or high needs as well as those determined not to have a viable release plan by the department of corrections.
- 35 (4) All housing assistance recipients must be willing to create and 36 actively participate in a housing stability plan for achieving 37 permanent housing and greater levels of self-sufficiency.

1 (5) Data on all housing assistance recipients must be entered into 2 and tracked through the Washington homeless client management 3 information system as described in RCW 43.185C.180.

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

17

18

19

2021

22

2324

25

2627

28

2930

34

3536

37

- (6) The department of corrections shall cooperate with the department in:
- (a) Determining an appropriate formula for the distribution of grant funds to counties or regions; and
- (b) Developing rules, requirements, procedures, and guidelines as necessary to implement and operate the offender reentry transitional housing assistance program.
- 11 (7) The department of corrections shall collaborate with the 12 organization receiving grant funds to:
- 13 (a) Help identify appropriate housing solutions in the community 14 for offenders;
- 15 (b) Where possible, facilitate an offender's application for 16 housing prior to discharge;
  - (c) Identify enhancements to training provided to offenders prior to discharge that may assist an offender in effectively transitioning to the community;
  - (d) Maintain communication between the case manager, housing provider, and corrections staff supervising the offender; and
  - (e) Assist the offender in accessing resources and services available through the department of corrections and a community justice center, if one is located in the area.
  - (8) The department shall produce an annual transitional housing operating and rent program report that must be included in the department's homeless housing strategic plan as described in RCW 43.185C.040. The report must include performance measures to be determined by the department that address, at a minimum, the following issue areas:
- 31 (a) The success of the program in helping housing assistance 32 recipients transition into permanent housing and increase their levels 33 of self-sufficiency;
  - (b) The financial performance of the program related to efficient program administration by the department and program operation by selected eligible organizations, including an analysis of the costs per program participant served;

p. 49 2SSB 5070

1 (c) The quality, completeness, and timeliness of the information on 2 housing assistance recipients provided to the Washington homeless 3 client management information system database; and

- (d) The satisfaction of housing assistance recipients in the assistance provided through the program.
- 6 (9) The state, department of community, trade, and economic development, department of corrections, local governments, local housing authorities, and its employees are not liable for civil damages arising from the criminal conduct of an offender due to the placement of an offender in housing provided under this section or the provision of housing assistance.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 705. A new section is added to chapter 43.185C RCW to read as follows:

The offender reentry transitional housing assistance account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from sources directed to the offender reentry transitional housing assistance program must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used solely for the purpose of the offender reentry transitional housing assistance program as described in section 704 of this act. Only the director of the department of community, trade and economic development or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

## PART VIII - RESTORATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

**Sec. 801.** RCW 29A.04.079 and 2003 c 111 s 114 are each amended to read as follows:

An "infamous crime" is a crime punishable by death in the state penitentiary or imprisonment in a state correctional facility. The definition of "infamous crime" does not include juvenile adjudications pursuant to chapter 13.40 RCW or adult convictions for misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors.

**Sec. 802.** RCW 29A.08.520 and 2005 c 246 s 15 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) ((Upon receiving official notice of a person's conviction of a felony in either state or federal court, if the convicted person is a registered voter in the county, the county auditor shall cancel the defendant's voter registration. Additionally, the secretary of state in conjunction with the department of corrections, the Washington state patrol, the office of the administrator for the courts, and other appropriate state agencies shall arrange for a quarterly comparison of a list of known felons with the statewide voter registration list.)) A person who has been convicted of a felony and who is under the authority of the department of corrections as a result of that felony conviction is ineligible to vote. Following conviction of a felony, the right to vote is provisionally restored as long as the person is not under the authority of the department of corrections.

- (2)(a) Once the right to vote has been provisionally restored, the sentencing court may revoke the provisional restoration of voting rights if the sentencing court determines that a person has willfully failed to comply with the terms of his or her order to pay legal financial obligations.
- (b) If the person has failed to make three payments in a twelve-month period and the county clerk or restitution recipient requests, the prosecutor shall seek revocation of the provisional restoration of voting rights from the court.
- (c) To the extent practicable, the prosecutor and county clerk shall inform a restitution recipient of the recipient's right to ask for the revocation of the provisional restoration of voting rights.
- (3) If the court revokes the provisional restoration of voting rights, the revocation shall remain in effect until, upon motion by the person whose provisional voting rights have been revoked, the person shows that he or she has made a good faith effort to pay as defined in RCW 10.82.090.
- (4) The county clerk shall enter into a database maintained by the administrator for the courts the names of all persons whose provisional voting rights have been revoked, and update the database for any person whose voting rights have subsequently been restored pursuant to subsection (6) of this section.
- (5) At least twice a year, the secretary of state shall compare the list of registered voters to a list of felons who are not eligible to vote as provided in subsections (1) and (3) of this section. If a

p. 51 2SSB 5070

- 1 ((person is found on a felon list and the statewide voter registration
- 2 list)) registered voter is not eligible to vote as provided in this
- 3 <u>section</u>, the secretary of state or county auditor shall confirm the
- 4 match through a date of birth comparison and suspend the voter
- 5 registration from the official state voter registration list. The
- 6 canceling authority shall send to the person at his or her last known
- 7 voter registration address a notice of the proposed cancellation and an
- 8 explanation of the requirements for provisionally and permanently
- 9 restoring the right to vote ((once all terms of sentencing have been
- 10 completed)) and reregistering. If the person does not respond within
- 11 thirty days, the registration must be canceled. <u>To the extent</u>
- 12 possible, the secretary of state shall time the comparison required by
- 13 this subsection to allow notice and cancellation of voting rights for
- 14 ineligible voters prior to a primary or general election.
- 15  $((\frac{(2)}{2}))$  (6) The right to vote may be <u>permanently</u> restored by  $((\frac{1}{2}))$
- 16 each felony conviction,)) one of the following for each felony
- 17 <u>conviction</u>:
- 18 (a) A certificate of discharge issued by the sentencing court, as provided in RCW 9.94A.637;
- 20 (b) A court order restoring the right, as provided in RCW 9.92.066;
- 21 (c) A final order of discharge issued by the indeterminate sentence
- review board, as provided in RCW 9.96.050; or
- 23 (d) A certificate of restoration issued by the governor, as
- 24 provided in RCW 9.96.020.
- 25 **Sec. 803.** RCW 9.92.066 and 2003 c 66 s 2 are each amended to read
- 26 as follows:
- 27 (1) Upon termination of any suspended sentence under RCW 9.92.060
- or 9.95.210, such person may apply to the court for restoration of his
- 29 or her civil rights not already restored by RCW 29A.08.520. Thereupor
- 30 the court may in its discretion enter an order directing that such
- 31 defendant shall thereafter be released from all penalties and
- 32 disabilities resulting from the offense or crime of which he or she has
- 33 been convicted.
- 34 (2)(a) Upon termination of a suspended sentence under RCW 9.92.060
- 35 or 9.95.210, the person may apply to the sentencing court for a
- 36 vacation of the person's record of conviction under RCW 9.94A.640. The
- 37 court may, in its discretion, clear the record of conviction if it

finds the person has met the equivalent of the tests in RCW 9.94A.640(2) as those tests would be applied to a person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984.

(b) The clerk of the court in which the vacation order is entered shall immediately transmit the order vacating the conviction to the Washington state patrol identification section and to the local police agency, if any, which holds criminal history information for the person who is the subject of the conviction. The Washington state patrol and any such local police agency shall immediately update their records to reflect the vacation of the conviction, and shall transmit the order vacating the conviction to the federal bureau of investigation. A conviction that has been vacated under this section may not be disseminated or disclosed by the state patrol or local law enforcement agency to any person, except other criminal justice enforcement agencies.

Sec. 804. RCW 9.94A.637 and 2004 c 121 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

- (1)(a) When an offender has completed all requirements of the sentence, including any and all legal financial obligations, and while under the custody and supervision of the department, the secretary or the secretary's designee shall notify the sentencing court, which shall discharge the offender and provide the offender with a certificate of discharge by issuing the certificate to the offender in person or by mailing the certificate to the offender's last known address.
- (b)(i) When an offender has reached the end of his or her supervision with the department and has completed all the requirements of the sentence except his or her legal financial obligations, the secretary's designee shall provide the county clerk with a notice that the offender has completed all nonfinancial requirements of the sentence.
- (ii) When the department has provided the county clerk with notice that an offender has completed all the requirements of the sentence and the offender subsequently satisfies all legal financial obligations under the sentence, the county clerk shall notify the sentencing court, including the notice from the department, which shall discharge the offender and provide the offender with a certificate of discharge by

p. 53 2SSB 5070

issuing the certificate to the offender in person or by mailing the certificate to the offender's last known address.

1 2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

1112

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

2021

22

23

2425

2627

28

29

30

31

32

33

3435

36

37

- (c) When an offender who is subject to requirements of the sentence in addition to the payment of legal financial obligations either is not subject to supervision by the department or does not complete the requirements while under supervision of the department, it is the offender's responsibility to provide the court with verification of the completion of the sentence conditions other than the payment of legal financial obligations. When the offender satisfies all legal financial obligations under the sentence, the county clerk shall notify the sentencing court that the legal financial obligations have been satisfied. When the court has received both notification from the clerk and adequate verification from the offender that the sentence requirements have been completed, the court shall discharge the offender and provide the offender with a certificate of discharge by issuing the certificate to the offender in person or by mailing the certificate to the offender's last known address.
- (2) The court shall send a copy of every signed certificate of discharge to the auditor for the county in which the court resides and to the department. The department shall create and maintain a database containing the names of all felons who have been issued certificates of discharge, the date of discharge, and the date of conviction and offense.
- (3) An offender who is not convicted of a violent offense or a sex offense and is sentenced to a term involving community supervision may be considered for a discharge of sentence by the sentencing court prior to the completion of community supervision, provided that the offender has completed at least one-half of the term of community supervision and has met all other sentence requirements.
- (4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the discharge shall have the effect of restoring all civil rights ((lost by operation of law upon conviction)) not already restored by RCW 29A.08.520, and the certificate of discharge shall so state. Nothing in this section prohibits the use of an offender's prior record for purposes of determining sentences for later offenses as provided in this chapter. Nothing in this section affects or prevents use of the offender's prior conviction in a later criminal prosecution either as

an element of an offense or for impeachment purposes. A certificate of discharge is not based on a finding of rehabilitation.

- (5) Unless otherwise ordered by the sentencing court, a certificate of discharge shall not terminate the offender's obligation to comply with an order issued under chapter 10.99 RCW that excludes or prohibits the offender from having contact with a specified person or coming within a set distance of any specified location that was contained in the judgment and sentence. An offender who violates such an order after a certificate of discharge has been issued shall be subject to prosecution according to the chapter under which the order was originally issued.
- (6) Upon release from custody, the offender may apply to the department for counseling and help in adjusting to the community. This voluntary help may be provided for up to one year following the release from custody.

**Sec. 805.** RCW 9.96.050 and 2002 c 16 s 3 are each amended to read 17 as follows:

When a prisoner on parole has performed all obligations of his or her release, including any and all legal financial obligations, for such time as shall satisfy the indeterminate sentence review board that his or her final release is not incompatible with the best interests of society and the welfare of the paroled individual, the board may make a final order of discharge and issue a certificate of discharge to the prisoner. The certificate of discharge shall be issued to the offender in person or by mail to the prisoner's last known address.

The board shall send a copy of every signed certificate of discharge ((to the auditor for the county in which the offender was sentenced and)) to the department of corrections. The department shall create and maintain a database containing the names of all felons who have been issued certificates of discharge, the date of discharge, and the date of conviction and offense.

The board retains the jurisdiction to issue a certificate of discharge after the expiration of the prisoner's or parolee's maximum statutory sentence. If not earlier granted, the board shall make a final order of discharge three years from the date of parole unless the parolee is on suspended or revoked status at the expiration of the three years. Such discharge, regardless of when issued, shall have the

p. 55 2SSB 5070

- 1 effect of restoring all civil rights ((lost by operation of law upon
- 2 conviction)) not already restored by RCW 29A.08.520, and the
- 3 certification of discharge shall so state. This restoration of civil
- 4 rights shall not restore the right to receive, possess, own, or
- 5 transport firearms.
- 6 The discharge provided for in this section shall be considered as
- 7 a part of the sentence of the convicted person and shall not in any
- 8 manner be construed as affecting the powers of the governor to pardon
- 9 any such person.
- 10 Sec. 806. RCW 10.64.140 and 2005 c 246 s 1 are each amended to
- 11 read as follows:
- 12 When a person is convicted of a felony, the court shall require the
- 13 defendant to sign a statement acknowledging that:
- 14 (1) The defendant's right to vote has been lost due to the felony
- 15 conviction;
- 16 (2) ((<del>If the defendant is registered to vote, the voter</del>
- 17 registration will be canceled)) The right to vote is provisionally
- 18 restored as long as the defendant is not under the authority of the
- 19 <u>department of corrections;</u>
- 20 (3) The provisional right to vote may be revoked if the defendant
- 21 <u>fails to comply with all the terms of his or her legal financial</u>
- 22 <u>obligations or an agreement for the payment of legal financial</u>
- 23 obligations;
- $((\frac{3}{3}))$  (4) The right to vote may be <u>permanently</u> restored by <u>one of</u>
- 25 the following for each felony conviction:
- 26 (a) A certificate of discharge issued by the sentencing court, as
- 27 provided in RCW 9.94A.637;
- 28 (b) A court order issued by the sentencing court restoring the
- 29 right, as provided in RCW 9.92.066;
- 30 (c) A final order of discharge issued by the indeterminate sentence
- 31 review board, as provided in RCW 9.96.050; or
- 32 (d) A certificate of restoration issued by the governor, as
- 33 provided in RCW 9.96.020; and
- (((4))) Voting before the right is restored is a class C felony
- 35 under RCW 29A.84.660.

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 807. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:
  - (1) RCW 10.64.021 (Notice of conviction) and 1994 c 57 s 1; and
- 4 (2) RCW 29A.08.660 (Felony offender--Completion of sentence) and 5 2005 c 246 s 12.

### 6 PART IX - OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

3

9

10 11

12

1314

15

16

17

18

19 20

21

2425

26

2728

34

7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 901.** A new section is added to chapter 72.09 8 RCW to read as follows:

- (1) There is created the legislative corrections oversight committee for the purpose of monitoring and ensuring compliance with administrative acts, relevant statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to the department of corrections and the treatment and supervision of offenders under the authority of the department. The committee shall consist of three senators and three representatives from the legislature. The senate members of the committee shall be appointed by the president of the senate. The house members of the committee shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. Not more than two members from each chamber shall be from the same political party. Members shall be appointed before the close of each regular session of the legislature during an odd-numbered year.
  - (2) The committee shall have the following powers:
- 22 (a) Selection of its officers and adoption of rules for orderly 23 procedure;
  - (b) Request and receive status reports from the department related to its progress on the recommendations of the joint task force on offenders programs, sentencing and supervision authorized by chapter 267, Laws of 2006, implementation of the provisions of this act, and other topics as appropriate;
- (c) Monitor coordination and collaboration between local government and the department and efforts to share resources and reduce the duplication of services;
- 32 (d) Request investigations by the corrections ombudsman of 33 administrative acts;
  - (e) Receive reports of the ombudsman;
- 35 (f)(i) Obtain access to all relevant records in the possession of

p. 57 2SSB 5070

- the department or ombudsman, except as prohibited by law; and (ii) make recommendations to all branches of government;
  - (q) Request legislation;

3

4

6 7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15 16

- (h) Conduct hearings into such matters as it deems necessary.
- (3) Upon receipt of records from the department or ombudsman, the committee is subject to the same confidentiality restrictions as the department or ombudsman under Senate Bill No. 5295.
- (4) The committee will receive the necessary staff support from both the senate and house of representatives staff resources.
  - (5) The members of the committee shall serve without additional compensation, but will be reimbursed for their travel expenses, in accordance with RCW 44.04.120, incurred while attending sessions of the committee or meetings of a subcommittee of the committee, while engaged on other committee business authorized by the committee, and while going to and coming from committee sessions or committee meetings.
  - (6) This section expires July 1, 2012.

# 17 PART X - MISCELLANEOUS

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1001. Part headings used in this act are not any part of the law.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1002. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.
- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1003.** If specific funding for the purposes of this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by June 30, 2007, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and void.

--- END ---