
Human Services Committee

SSB 5326

Brief Description: Concerning notice to individuals convicted of a sex offense as a juvenile of their ability to terminate registration requirements.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senator Regala; by request of Sentencing Guidelines Commission).

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

- Requires the Washington State Patrol (WSP), at least annually, to provide notice to registered sex or kidnapping offenders whose offenses were committed when they were juveniles of the ability to petition for relief from the duty to register.
- Allows the WSP, for economic efficiency, to combine into one notice of the existing obligation to notify sex and kidnapping offenders of any changes in registration requirements and the notice of the ability to petition for relief under this bill.

Hearing Date: 3/18/09

Staff: Linda Merelle (786-7092)

Background:

A person who was convicted of a sex or kidnapping offense as a juvenile and who has a duty to register may petition the superior court to be relieved of that duty. If the petitioner was under the age of 15 when the offense was committed, the petitioner must demonstrate that he or she has not been adjudicated of any additional sex or kidnapping offenses during the 24 months following the adjudication of the offense and prove by a preponderance of the evidence that future registration of the petitioner will not serve the purposes of the registration requirement, which is to protect the community, aid law enforcement in investigating sex crimes, and to apprehend sex offenders.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

If a juvenile was 15 or older when the offense was committed, the petitioner must show by clear and convincing evidence that future registration of the petitioner will not serve the purposes of registration.

Summary of Bill:

The Washington State Patrol (WSP), in addition to its obligation to notify registered sex and kidnapping offenders of any change to registration requirements, must annually notify sex offenders, who committed their offenses when they were juveniles, of their right to petition the court for relief. For economic efficiency, the WSP may combine these two notice requirements into a single notice.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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