# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

## Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

### **ESB 6254**

**Brief Description**: Changing promoting prostitution provisions.

**Sponsors**: Senators Delvin, Hargrove, Kohl-Welles, Roach, Conway, Pflug, Ericksen, Carrell, Schoesler, Fain, Baumgartner, Fraser, Padden, Regala, Kline, Shin, Litzow, Eide, Chase, Stevens, Nelson and Keiser.

#### **Brief Summary of Engrossed Bill**

• Amends the offense of Promoting Prostitution in the first degree to include compelling a person with a mental or developmental disability that renders the person incapable of consent to engage in prostitution.

Hearing Date: 2/15/12

Staff: Sarah Koster (786-7303).

#### Background:

A person is guilty of Promoting Prostitution in the first degree if he or she knowingly advances prostitution by compelling a person by threat or force to engage in prostitution or profits from prostitution which results from such threat or force.

Promoting Prostitution in the first degree is a class B felony.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

Compelling a person with a mental or developmental disability to engage in prostitution is added to the definition of Promoting Prostitution in the first degree, so that:

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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.

A person is guilty of Promoting Prostitution in the first degree if he or she knowingly advances prostitution:

- a. by compelling a person by threat or force to engage in prostitution or profits from prostitution which results from such threat or force; or
- b. by compelling a person with a mental or developmental disability that renders the person incapable of consent to engage in prostitution or profits from prostitution.

**Appropriation**: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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