
HOUSE BILL 1277

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Cairnes, Scott, Padden and Lambert

Read first time 01/19/95. Referred to Committee on Law and Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to reporting of crimes involving the taking or
2 theft of a motor vehicle; and adding a new section to chapter 9A.56
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.56 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature finds that law enforcement officers, when
8 receiving a report about a crime that may be chargeable under this
9 chapter involving the taking or theft of a motor vehicle, are not
10 always given sufficient information concerning the circumstances of the
11 crime and possible suspects to determine whether a vehicular pursuit
12 should be initiated or continued. Taking a motor vehicle without
13 permission often involves a family member of the owner, and in such
14 cases a vehicular pursuit endangering life and property is often not
15 warranted.

16 (2) By December 31, 1995, every state, county, and municipal law
17 enforcement agency shall adopt and implement a written policy on the
18 designation and reporting of crimes that may be chargeable under this
19 chapter involving the taking or theft of a motor vehicle, to enable law

1 enforcement officers to make more informed decisions concerning whether
2 to initiate or continue vehicular pursuits.

3 The policy shall require that, when providing information about a
4 possible crime under this chapter to its officers or to another law
5 enforcement agency, the law enforcement agency provide the most current
6 available information concerning the circumstances of the crime and
7 possible suspects, whenever possible. The policy shall apply to any
8 dissemination of such information including radio or other
9 communication with law enforcement officers on patrol and communication
10 with other law enforcement agencies through computer systems or
11 networks, or otherwise.

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