
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2164

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Benton, Pelesky, Smith, Hargrove and Campbell)

Read first time 02/05/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to arming community corrections officers; adding a
2 new section to chapter 72.02 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring
3 an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 72.02 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Community corrections officers may, at their discretion, carry
8 firearms during the course of their official field duties. The
9 department shall not be responsible for providing or paying for any
10 firearms, materials, equipment, or training associated with
11 implementation of this policy. A community corrections officer who
12 chooses to be armed pursuant to this section shall, at his or her own
13 expense, arrange for and complete any necessary training. In addition,
14 a community corrections officer who chooses to be armed pursuant to
15 this section shall, at his or her own expense, provide his or her own
16 firearm as well as any associated materials and equipment needed by the
17 community corrections officer in order to carry a firearm.

1 (2) Nothing in this section may be construed as making community
2 corrections officers eligible for membership in the law enforcement
3 officers' and firefighters' retirement system under chapter 41.26 RCW.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) By December 1, 1996, the criminal
5 justice training commission shall set the following standards and
6 requirements for implementing this act.

7 The commission shall determine the types of firearms that community
8 corrections officers shall be permitted to carry and the permissible
9 types of ammunition. The commission shall also set standards
10 determining what constitutes necessary training. In so doing, the
11 commission shall specify the nature of training that community
12 corrections officers must complete and/or the level of competency
13 community corrections officers must demonstrate in order to carry
14 firearms pursuant to section 1 of this act. This may include periodic
15 refresher training courses or competency reviews.

16 (2)(a) Prior to determining the standards and requirements in
17 subsection (1) of this section, and no later than May 1, 1996, the
18 criminal justice training commission shall convene an advisory board to
19 make recommendations for developing these standards and requirements.
20 The advisory board shall have the following members:

21 (i) Two individuals designated by the commission who have been
22 certified and approved by the commission to provide firearms
23 instruction;

24 (ii) Two community corrections officers who are designated by the
25 exclusive bargaining unit representing community corrections officers;
26 and

27 (iii) One representative from the department of corrections
28 designated by the secretary of the department of corrections.

29 (b) The recommendations of the advisory board shall be delivered to
30 the criminal justice training commission no later than September 1,
31 1996.

32 (3) The department of corrections shall implement the policy
33 contained in this act allowing community corrections officers to carry
34 firearms no later than January 1, 1997, but not before the criminal
35 justice training commission has determined standards and requirements
36 pursuant to this section.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
3 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
4 effect immediately.

--- END ---