

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS
SB 6464

Title: An act relating to manufacture of methamphetamine.

Brief Description: Increasing the penalty for manufacture of methamphetamine.

Sponsors: Senators Goings, Winsley, Roach, Anderson, Patterson, Fairley, Franklin, McAuliffe, Jacobsen, Horn, Haugen, Schow, Rasmussen, and Oke. By request of Governor Locke.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS

Hearing Date: February 27, 1998.

Prepared By: Yvonne Walker, Research Analyst (786-7841).

Background: Methamphetamine is a controlled substance. It is unlawful to manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to manufacture or deliver methamphetamine. The penalty for violating this law is a maximum of 10 years in prison, a fine of not more than \$25,000, or both, if the crime involved less than two kilograms of the drug. If the crime involved two kilograms or more, the penalty is 10 years in prison, a fine of not more than \$100,000 for the first two kilograms and not more than an additional \$50 for each gram in excess of two kilograms, or both imprisonment and the fine. Under the Sentencing Reform Act, this drug crime is ranked at a level VIII, class B felony, which means that a first time offender would have a presumptive prison term of 21-27 months in prison. The actual sentence an offender would receive depends on the offender's prior criminal history and other current charges.

Summary: Under the Sentencing Reform Act, the manufacture of methamphetamine is increased from a level VIII to a X. A first time offender would have a presumptive prison term of 51-68 months in prison.

This act applies to crimes committed on or after July 1, 1998.

Rules Authority: No.

Fiscal Note: None.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.