

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6476

As Passed Senate, February 11, 2002

Title: An act relating to clarifying counseling costs that may be included in restitution ordered in juvenile court.

Brief Description: Clarifying counseling costs that may be included in restitution ordered in juvenile court.

Sponsors: Senators Costa, Long, Kohl-Welles, Carlson, Eide, Spanel, Snyder, Jacobsen and Gardner.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Human Services & Corrections: 1/25/02 [DP].

Passed Senate: 2/11/02, 49-0.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Hargrove, Chair; Costa, Vice Chair; Carlson, Franklin, Hewitt, Kastama, Kohl-Welles, Long and Stevens.

Staff: Tony Rugel (786-7754)

Background: The most recent version of RCW 13.40.020 has been interpreted by some courts to only allow for restitution of a victim's counseling costs if the offense was a sex offense. In addition, the word "victim" was not clearly defined in RCW 13.40.020.

Summary of Bill: Restitution of the victim's counseling costs is allowed in all criminal cases. A definition of "victim" is added to the juvenile crime statutes. The definition includes those who have sustained injury as a direct result of the crime charged and also the parent or guardian of a victim who is a minor child so long as the parent or guardian is not the perpetrator. Adding this definition creates consistency between the adult and juvenile criminal restitution statutes.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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

Testimony For: The Crime Victims Advocates are in favor of this bill.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Joan Guenther, Washington Coalition of Crime Victims Advocates (pro).

