HOUSE BILL 1611

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Schindler and Romero; by request of Washington State Patrol

Read first time 01/30/2001. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to missing persons record retention policies; and 2 amending RCW 68.50.320.

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

4 **sec. 1.** RCW 68.50.320 and 1984 c 17 s 18 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

6 When a person reported missing has not been found within thirty 7 days of the report, the sheriff, chief of police, county coroner or 8 county medical examiner, or other law enforcement authority initiating 9 and conducting the investigation for the missing person shall ask the 10 missing person's family or next of kin to give written consent to 11 contact the dentist or dentists of the missing person and request the 12 person's dental records.

When a person reported missing has not been found within thirty days, the sheriff, chief of police, or other law enforcement authority initiating and conducting the investigation for the missing person shall confer with the county coroner or medical examiner prior to the preparation of a missing person's report. After conferring with the coroner or medical examiner, the sheriff, chief of police, or other law enforcement authority shall submit a missing person's report and the dental records received under this section to the dental identification
system of the state patrol identification and criminal history section
on forms supplied by the state patrol for such purpose.

When a person reported missing has been found, the sheriff, chief of police, coroner or medical examiner, or other law enforcement authority shall report such information to the state patrol. ((The dental identification system shall then erase all records with respect to such person.))

9 The dental identification system shall maintain a file of 10 information regarding persons reported to it as missing ((and who have 11 not been reported found)). The file shall contain the information 12 referred to in this section and such other information as the state 13 patrol finds relevant to assist in the location of a missing person.

The files of the dental identification system shall, upon request, be made available to law enforcement agencies attempting to locate missing persons.

--- END ---