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SENATE BILL 5277

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Darneille, Padden, Pedersen, Fain, Frockt, Keiser, Chase, and Fraser

Read first time 01/16/15. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to making the crime of patronizing a prostitute a  
2 gross misdemeanor; amending RCW 9A.88.110; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9A.88.110 and 1988 c 146 s 4 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A person is guilty of patronizing a prostitute if:

7 (a) Pursuant to a prior understanding, he or she pays a fee to  
8 another person as compensation for such person or a third person  
9 having engaged in sexual conduct with him or her; or

10 (b) He or she pays or agrees to pay a fee to another person  
11 pursuant to an understanding that in return therefor such person will  
12 engage in sexual conduct with him or her; or

13 (c) He or she solicits or requests another person to engage in  
14 sexual conduct with him or her in return for a fee.

15 (2) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" has the  
16 meaning given in RCW 9A.88.030.

17 (3) Patronizing a prostitute is a gross misdemeanor.

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