CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1281

Chapter 279, Laws of 2015

64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF MINORS--CHILD RESCUE FUND

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/24/2015

Passed by the House April 20, 2015 CERTIFICATE Yeas 95 Nays 0 I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the FRANK CHOPP State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SECOND** Speaker of the House of Representatives SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1281 as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon Passed by the Senate April 13, 2015 set forth. Yeas 44 Nays 0 BARBARA BAKER BRAD OWEN Chief Clerk President of the Senate Approved May 18, 2015 1:44 PM FILED May 18, 2015

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

Secretary of State

State of Washington

SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1281

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2015 Regular Session

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Sawyer, Orwall, Hurst, Blake, Stokesbary, Tarleton, Walsh, Kirby, Appleton, G. Hunt, Pettigrew, Jinkins, Carlyle, Fey, Ortiz-Self, Senn, Walkinshaw, Moeller, Kilduff, Robinson, Van De Wege, Stanford, Ryu, Lytton, Sells, Riccelli, Kagi, Bergquist, Clibborn, Santos, Buys, and Gregerson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/27/15.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to sexual exploitation of minors; adding new
- 2 sections to chapter 9.68A RCW; creating a new section; and
- 3 prescribing penalties.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that sexual abuse
- 6 and exploitation of children robs victims of their childhood and
- 7 irrevocably interferes with their emotional and psychological
- 8 development. Victims of child pornography often experience severe and
- 9 lasting harm from the permanent memorialization of the crimes
- 10 committed against them. Child victims endure depression, withdrawal,
- 11 anger, and other psychological disorders. Victims also experience
- 12 feelings of guilt and responsibility for the sexual abuse as well as
- 13 feelings of betrayal, powerlessness, worthlessness, and low self-
- 14 esteem. Each and every time such an image is viewed, traded, printed,
- or downloaded, the child in that image is victimized again.
- 16 The legislature finds that the expansion of the internet and
- 17 computer-related technologies have led to a dramatic increase in the
- 18 availability of child pornography by simplifying how it can be
- 19 created, distributed, and collected. Investigators and prosecutors
- 20 report dramatic increases in the number and violent character of the
- 21 sexually abusive images of children being trafficked through the

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1 internet. Between 2005 and 2009, the national center for missing and exploited children's child victim identification program has seen a 2 four hundred thirty-two percent increase in child pornography films 3 and files submitted for identification of the children depicted. The 4 United States department of justice estimates that pornographers have 5 6 recorded the abuse of more than one million children in the United States alone. Furthermore, a well-known study conducted by crimes 7 against children research center for the national center for missing 8 and exploited children concluded that an estimated forty percent of 9 those who possess child pornography have also directly victimized a 10 11 child and fifteen percent have attempted to entice a child over the 12 internet.

The legislature finds that due to a lack of dedicated resources, only two percent of known child exploitation offenders are being investigated. The legislature finds that additional funding sources are needed to ensure that law enforcement agencies can adequately investigate and prosecute offenders and victims can receive necessary services, including mental health treatment. Finally, the legislature finds that offenders convicted of crimes relating to child pornography should bear the high cost of investigations and prosecutions of these crimes and also the cost of providing services to victims.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 9.68A RCW to read as follows:
- (1) In addition to penalties set forth in RCW 9.68A.070, a person who is convicted of violating RCW 9.68A.070 shall be assessed a fee of one thousand dollars for each depiction or image of visual or printed matter that constitutes a separate conviction.
- 29 (2) Fees assessed under this section shall be collected by the 30 clerk of the court and remitted to the state treasurer for deposit 31 into the child rescue fund created in section 3 of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 9.68A RCW to read as follows:
- 34 (1) The child rescue fund is created in the custody of the state 35 treasurer. All receipts from fees collected under section 2 of this 36 act must be deposited into the fund.
- 37 (2) Only the attorney general for the state of Washington or the 38 attorney general's designee may authorize expenditures from the fund.

(3) The attorney general or his or her designee must make any expenditures from the fund according to the following schedule:

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- (a) Twenty-five percent of receipts for grants to child advocacy centers, as defined in RCW 26.44.020; and
- (b) Seventy-five percent of receipts for grants to the Washington internet crimes against children task force for use in investigations and prosecutions of crimes against children.
- (4) The fund is subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

Passed by the House April 20, 2015. Passed by the Senate April 13, 2015. Approved by the Governor May 18, 2015. Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 18, 2015.

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