
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4414

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 First Special Session

By Representatives Carrell and Lantz

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 WHEREAS, There exist various statutory mechanisms through which the
2 state may seize and forfeit real and personal property because of the
3 property's connection to crime; and

4 WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes that civil forfeiture plays a
5 useful role in the state's efforts to reduce crime; and

6 WHEREAS, Congress passed the Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act of
7 2000, which made significant changes to the provisions of the federal
8 civil forfeiture statutes; and

9 WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes that periodically revisiting
10 the civil forfeiture laws helps to maintain its effectiveness and
11 allows the legislature to address new issues and concerns that arise in
12 the implementation of the civil forfeiture laws;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of
14 the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, That a joint select
15 committee on civil forfeiture be established to evaluate civil
16 forfeiture laws and practices, evaluate changes to federal civil
17 forfeiture laws and how they compare to Washington law, analyze whether
18 a requirement for a criminal conviction before allowing civil
19 forfeiture would raise additional constitutional issues, conduct a
20 comprehensive review of every civil forfeiture case that took place in
21 Washington under state law in the year 2000, discuss other civil

1 forfeiture issues identified by the joint select committee, and make
2 recommendations on ways to improve civil forfeiture laws; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee consist of
4 eight members, four members from the Senate, two from each caucus to be
5 appointed by the President of the Senate, and four members from the
6 House of Representatives, two from each caucus to be appointed by the
7 Co-Speakers of the House of Representatives; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee consult
9 with representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union, the
10 Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, and the Washington
11 Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in developing the
12 recommendations; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That staffing for the joint select
14 committee be provided by the House office of program research and
15 Senate committee services; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee report its
17 findings and recommendations to the Senate judiciary committee and
18 House of Representatives judiciary committee not later than December 1,
19 2001, and that the committee terminate December 15, 2001.

--- END ---