

SSB 6308 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 03/02/2006

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that "good time"
4 should be productive time, especially for those incarcerated in
5 Washington's criminal justice facilities. The legislature finds that
6 it is important to the safety of the public and to rehabilitation of
7 offenders that changes be considered to other programs offered in
8 prisons and in the community. The legislature further finds that
9 reforms to sentencing and supervision of offenders returning to the
10 community may enhance public safety, lower recidivism, and reduce crime
11 and victimization. Therefore, the legislature intends to create a
12 joint legislative task force on offenders programs, sentencing, and
13 supervision to provide findings and recommendations for the 2007
14 legislative session.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A joint legislative task force on
16 offenders programs, sentencing, and supervision is established, with
17 members as provided in this subsection.

18 (a) The president of the senate shall appoint two members from each
19 of the two largest caucuses of the senate, with at least one member
20 being a member of the senate human services and corrections committee;

21 (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint two
22 members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
23 representatives, with at least one member being a member of the house
24 criminal justice and corrections committee;

25 (c) The governor shall appoint the following members:

26 (i) The attorney general, or the attorney general's designee;

27 (ii) The secretary of corrections, or the secretary's designee;

28 (iii) The executive director of the sentencing guidelines
29 commission, or the director's designee;

1 (d) In addition, the joint legislative task force, where feasible,
2 may consult with individuals representing the following:

- 3 (i) Superior court judges;
- 4 (ii) Mental health treatment providers who provide alcohol and
5 substance abuse counseling;
- 6 (iii) Mental health treatment providers who provide medical
7 assistance services to offenders;
- 8 (iv) Counties;
- 9 (v) Cities;
- 10 (vi) Crime victims;
- 11 (vii) Prosecuting attorneys;
- 12 (viii) Criminal defense lawyers;
- 13 (ix) Faculty members who educate incarcerated offenders;
- 14 (x) Faculty members who educate released offenders;
- 15 (xi) Community corrections officers;
- 16 (xii) Labor organizations representing correctional officers who
17 work in adult correctional facilities;
- 18 (xiii) Multifamily housing;
- 19 (xiv) City local law enforcement;
- 20 (xv) County law enforcement;
- 21 (xvi) Ex-offenders;
- 22 (xvii) A faith-based organization that provides outreach or
23 services to offenders;
- 24 (xviii) Washington businesses; and
- 25 (xix) Nonprofit organizations providing work force training to
26 released offenders.

27 (2) The joint legislative task force shall be cochaired by a
28 legislative member from the senate and a legislative member from the
29 house of representatives, as chosen by the task force.

30 (3) The joint legislative task force shall review and make
31 recommendations regarding:

32 (a) The type of offender that would benefit most in terms of
33 personal achievement, responsibility, and community safety, by having
34 the opportunity to receive enhanced training and education while in
35 prison;

36 (b) The types of training and educational programs that would
37 provide the greatest return on investment with regard to offender
38 achievement, responsibility, and community;

1 (c) Changes to the sentencing law and policies related to "good
2 time" or early release, that would encourage incarcerated offenders to
3 participate in training and programs that will increase the likelihood
4 that they will be able to support themselves when they leave prison and
5 reduce recidivism;

6 (d) A method for evaluating the return on the investment and
7 determining from frontline department of corrections staff and
8 community partners, whether the changes are improving personal
9 responsibility on the part of the offender and reducing crime in the
10 community; and

11 (e) Changes to community supervision that would provide greater
12 safety to the public and incentives for prisons in adhering to
13 treatment, educational goals, and reducing recidivism.

14 (4) The joint legislative task force shall present a report of its
15 findings and recommendations to the governor and the appropriate
16 committees of the legislature, including any proposed legislation, by
17 November 15, 2006.

18 (5) The joint legislative task force may, where feasible, consult
19 with individuals from the public and private sector in carrying out its
20 duties under this section.

21 (6)(a) The joint legislative task force shall use legislative
22 facilities, and staff support shall be provided by senate committee
23 services, the house of representatives office of program research, and
24 the Washington state institute for public policy. The department of
25 corrections and the sentencing guidelines commission shall cooperate
26 with the joint legislative task force, and shall provide information as
27 the task force reasonably requests.

28 (b) Nonlegislative members of the joint legislative task force
29 shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for travel
30 expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

31 (c) Legislative members of the joint legislative task force shall
32 be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.

33 (d) The expenses of the joint legislative task force shall be paid
34 jointly by the senate and the house of representatives.

35 (7) This section expires December 1, 2006."

36 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Restructures the statutory language so that it coincides

with OPR's boilerplate language for the establishment of legislative task forces. Also deletes all specific references to task appointments of representatives from nonstate agencies. Changes the name of the committee from a "joint select committee" to a "joint legislative task force."

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