

2SHB 1789 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Law & Justice

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Subject to the availability of  
4 amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, by December 1, 2017,  
5 the sentencing guidelines commission shall contract for the services  
6 of an external consultant to evaluate the state's sentencing laws and  
7 practices. The consultant must have demonstrated experience and  
8 knowledge in Washington's sentencing system and other sentencing  
9 systems and models in other states and nations. The consultant must  
10 have demonstrated experience in conducting significant research  
11 studies. The evaluation must include:

12 (a) A review of the sentencing reform act of 1981 and any changes  
13 made to the sentencing reform act since that time;

14 (b) Recommendations regarding how sentencing laws in Washington  
15 can be simplified without risking public safety; and

16 (c) Recommendations for establishing an ongoing review of  
17 sentencing laws and practices.

18 (2) The consultant shall complete its evaluation and submit a  
19 report to the commission, the joint legislative task force on  
20 criminal sentencing under section 2 of this act, the appropriate  
21 committees of the legislature, and the governor by September 1, 2018.  
22 The contract for services must include a requirement for three  
23 briefings before the legislature to take place during the 2018  
24 interim and 2019 regular legislative session, including for the joint  
25 legislative task force on sentencing, the house of representatives,  
26 and the senate.

27 (3) This section expires July 1, 2019.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A joint legislative task force on  
29 criminal sentencing is established.

30 (2) The task force is composed of members as provided in this  
31 subsection.

1 (a) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from  
2 each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

3 (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one  
4 member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of  
5 representatives.

6 (c) The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
7 representatives jointly shall appoint members representing the:

8 (i) Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs;

9 (ii) Washington state patrol;

10 (iii) Caseload forecast council;

11 (iv) Washington association of prosecuting attorneys;

12 (v) Washington association of criminal defense attorneys or the  
13 Washington defender association;

14 (vi) Washington state association of counties;

15 (vii) Office of the attorney general;

16 (viii) American civil liberties union of Washington;

17 (ix) Sentencing guidelines commission;

18 (x) Department of corrections;

19 (xi) Superior court judges' association; and

20 (xii) Administrative office of the courts.

21 (3)(a) The task force shall review sentencing laws after  
22 consideration of the study under section 1 of this act and the  
23 consultant's recommendations. The task force shall review and make  
24 recommendations regarding how the sentencing reform act of 1981 can  
25 be simplified.

26 (b) The task force shall submit a report, including findings and  
27 recommendations, to the governor and the appropriate committees of  
28 the legislature by December 1, 2019.

29 (4) The legislative membership shall convene the initial meeting  
30 of the task force no later than September 2018.

31 (5) The legislative members of the task force shall choose the  
32 task force's cochairs, which must include one senator and one  
33 representative from among the legislative membership of the task  
34 force.

35 (6) Staff support for the task force must be provided by senate  
36 committee services and the house office of program research.

37 (7) Legislative members of the task force are reimbursed for  
38 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative  
39 members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they  
40 are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer,

1 governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for  
2 other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

3 (8) The expenses of the task force shall be paid jointly by the  
4 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures are  
5 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee  
6 and the house executive rules committee, or their successor  
7 committees.

8 (9) This section expires July 1, 2020."

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9 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "offenders;" strike the  
10 remainder of the title and insert "creating new sections; and  
11 providing expiration dates."

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