

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6149

As of January 25, 2018

Title: An act relating to minimum monthly salary paid to Washington state patrol troopers and sergeants.

Brief Description: Concerning the minimum monthly salary paid to Washington state patrol troopers and sergeants.

Sponsors: Senators Hobbs, King, Hunt and Van De Wege.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 1/23/18.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires salary levels for troopers and sergeants to be guided by the results of a biennial survey of the average of compensation paid to the corresponding rank from six specified local law enforcement agencies.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Bryon Moore (786-7726)

Background: In 2016, E2SHB 2872 made a number of changes concerning the recruitment and retention of Washington State Patrol (WSP) commissioned officers. In addition to an organizational study of the WSP conducted by the Office of Financial Management, a one-time 5 percent compensation increase for troopers, sergeants, lieutenants, and captains, and direction to WSP to develop a comprehensive outreach and marketing strategic plan, the minimum monthly salary paid to WSP troopers and sergeants must have been made competitive with law enforcement agencies within the state on July 1, 2017. Salary levels on July 1, 2017, must also have been guided by the average of compensation paid to the corresponding rank from the Seattle Police Department, King County Sheriff's Office, Tacoma Police Department, Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, Spokane Police Department, and Vancouver Police Department. The comparison data used was accurate as of July 1, 2016. Finally, salary increases for captains and lieutenants that are collectively bargained must also be proportionate to the increases for troopers and sergeants.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill: WSP salaries for troopers and sergeants are required to be guided each biennium based on the equivalent compensation paid to the Seattle Police Department, King County Sheriff's Office, Tacoma Police Department, Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, Spokane Police Department, and Vancouver Police. Collectively bargained salary increases for captains and lieutenants are required to be proportionate to the increases for troopers and sergeants.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect on July 1, 2018.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: The bill will allow trooper levels to be competitive with local law enforcement. The indexing to the six largest jurisdictions has already had a positive impact on WSP recruitment and retention. This will keep us moving forward.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Jason Linn, WSP Captains and Lieutenants Association; Jeff Merrill, State Patrol Troopers Association; Monica Alexander, WSP.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: No one.