
SENATE BILL 5628

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senators Brandland, Esser, Kline and Kohl-Welles; by request of Sentencing Guidelines Commission

Read first time 02/03/2003. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to recommendations by the sentencing guidelines
2 commission on threshold property values for crimes involving property;
3 adding a new section to chapter 9.94A RCW; creating a new section; and
4 providing an expiration date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It has been twenty years since the
7 legislature has comprehensively reviewed and adjusted threshold
8 property values for crimes involving property. The legislature
9 declares that in the interests of justice a study should be conducted
10 to determine whether threshold property values for crimes involving
11 property and the method for determining such values should be changed.
12 The legislature intends to establish an objective and public process
13 for reviewing the current threshold values for the crimes set forth in
14 section 2 of this act. The legislature intends the process to be
15 thorough and reflect input from all affected parties.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 9.94A RCW
17 to read as follows:

1 (1) The sentencing guidelines commission is directed to conduct a
2 study of threshold property values for crimes involving property.

3 The commission shall include in the study at least the crimes of
4 malicious mischief, theft, unlawful issuance of checks or drafts, theft
5 of rental, leased, or lease-purchased property, and possessing stolen
6 property, as well as any other property-based crimes other than those
7 related to controlled substances in which the value of the property is
8 an element of the offense.

9 The commission shall study the need and effect of changing
10 threshold property values for crimes involving property, identify
11 viable mechanisms for establishing a periodic review or adjustment of
12 such values, and whether a particular mechanism should be recommended
13 to the legislature and governor. If a preferred mechanism is
14 identified, it shall be included in the report required under
15 subsection (3) of this section.

16 (2) The commission shall seek the participation of the business
17 community, prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys, local governments,
18 and the department of corrections.

19 (3) The commission shall report its findings and any
20 recommendations to the legislature and the governor by December 1,
21 2004.

22 (4) This section expires July 1, 2005.

--- END ---