
HOUSE BILL 2919

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Blake, Grant, Takko, Walsh, Morrell, McDonald, Wallace, Ericks, Kilmer and Green

Read first time 01/16/2006. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to local assistance for state narcotics task
2 forces; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
5 provide an annual combined level of state and federal funding for
6 multijurisdictional drug task forces and local government drug
7 prosecution assistance at a minimum of four million dollars.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** It is the intent of the legislature to
9 provide assistance for jurisdictions enforcing illegal drug laws that
10 have historically been underserved by federally funded state narcotics
11 task forces and are considered to be major transport areas of narcotics
12 traffickers.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Three pilot enforcement areas shall be
14 established for a period of four fiscal years, beginning July 1, 2006,
15 and ending June 30, 2010, with one in the southwestern region of the
16 state, comprising of Pacific, Wahkiakum, Lewis, Grays Harbor, and
17 Cowlitz counties; one in the southeastern region of the state,

1 comprising of Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, and Asotin counties; and
2 one in the northeastern part of the state, comprising of Stevens,
3 Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Lincoln counties. The counties comprising a
4 specific pilot area will coordinate with each other to establish and
5 implement a regional strategy to enforce illegal drug laws.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** It is the intent of the legislature to
7 provide funding of no less than one million five hundred seventy-five
8 thousand dollars annually. The funding is to be divided equally among
9 the three pilot enforcement areas. This funding is intended to provide
10 a minimum of four additional sheriff deputies for each pilot area, two
11 deputy prosecutors who will support the counties that are included in
12 the pilot area, a court clerk, and clerical staff to serve the pilot
13 area. It is the intent of the legislature that those counties that
14 have not previously received significant federal narcotics task force
15 funding shall be allocated funding for at least one additional
16 sheriff's deputy. Counties are encouraged to utilize drug courts and
17 treatment programs, and to share resources that operate in the region
18 through the use of interlocal agreements. The funding appropriated for
19 this purpose must not be used to supplant existing funding and cannot
20 be used for any purpose other than the enforcement of illegal drug
21 laws.

22 The criminal justice training commission will allocate funds to the
23 Washington association of prosecuting attorneys and the Washington
24 association of sheriffs and police chiefs. The Washington association
25 of prosecuting attorneys is responsible for administration of the
26 funding and programs for the prosecution of crimes and court
27 proceedings. The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs
28 shall administer the funds provided for law enforcement.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The Washington association of sheriffs and
30 police chiefs, the Washington association of prosecuting attorneys, and
31 the Washington association of county officials shall jointly develop
32 measures to determine the efficacy of the programs in the pilot area.
33 These measures will include comparison of arrest rates before the
34 implementation of this act and after, reduction of recidivism, and any
35 other factors that are determined to be relevant to evaluation of the

1 programs. The organizations named in this section will present their
2 findings to the legislature by December 1, 2008.

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