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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5553**

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**State of Washington**

**59th Legislature**

**2005 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Brandland, Kohl-Welles, Hargrove and Regala)

READ FIRST TIME 02/23/05.

1       AN ACT Relating to creating a pilot program for electronic  
2 fingerprinting technology; adding a new section to chapter 28A.310 RCW;  
3 creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

5       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the technology  
6 used for criminal history record information background checks for  
7 employment purposes are rapidly increasing in Washington. Gathering  
8 fingerprints electronically not only reduces the number of rejected  
9 fingerprints by improving the accuracy and quality of prints, but it  
10 also reduces the turnaround time for gathering criminal background  
11 checks for prospective employees.

12       The legislature has learned that electronic fingerprinting  
13 technology is currently limited in the state for noncriminal justice  
14 purposes. There are no public or private sector fingerprinting service  
15 centers to accommodate individuals applying for noncriminal justice  
16 employment or licensing. The legislature further finds that creating  
17 a pilot program, by strategically placing several electronic  
18 fingerprinting devices in government offices throughout the state, will

1 help employers and prospective employees to more easily gather and  
2 transmit data for noncriminal justice purposes.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.310  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 After the results of a background check for noncriminal justice  
6 purposes have been obtained and transmitted to the requesting party,  
7 the electronic files of the fingerprint images shall be destroyed. The  
8 electronic files containing the fingerprint images that are gathered  
9 and transmitted pursuant to this section shall not be retained by the  
10 Washington state patrol, the educational service district, or any state  
11 or local agency or by any private party hired to gather or transmit the  
12 electronic fingerprints.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The amount of two hundred seventy thousand  
14 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from  
15 the state general fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, to the  
16 superintendent of public instruction. The amount in this section is  
17 provided solely to purchase an electronic fingerprinting device for  
18 each educational service district, to be used for noncriminal justice  
19 purposes.

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