HB 2790-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides advisory sentencing guidelines.

Declares an intent to restore the ability to impose an aggravated sentence lost by the superior court as a result of the decision of the United States supreme court in Blakely v. State of Washington, 542 U.S. 296 (2004). The legislature finds that as the seriousness level of the crime and the criminal history of the offender increase, the need for an individualized and informed assessment of the circumstances of the crime, the offender, and the victim, by the judiciary, is necessary for justice to be obtained. The legislature further finds that the exercise of the judiciary's sentencing discretion over a broader range based upon the assessment of these circumstances is consistent with the policies supporting Washington's sentencing reform act.