

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6933**

Chapter 90, Laws of 2008

60th Legislature  
2008 Regular Session

SEX OFFENSES--ADMISSIBILITY OF EVIDENCE

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/12/08

Passed by the Senate March 10, 2008  
YEAS 47 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 5, 2008  
YEAS 91 NAYS 5

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved March 20, 2008, 11:23 a.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6933** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

THOMAS HOEMANN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary**

FILED

March 21, 2008

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6933**

---

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2008 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2008 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Judiciary (originally sponsored by Senators Marr, Hargrove, Hewitt, Franklin, Pflug, Carrell, Berkey, Kauffman, Haugen, McCaslin, Rockefeller, Fraser, and Kilmer)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/08.

1            AN ACT Relating to admissibility of evidence in sex offense cases;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 10.58 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** In Washington, the legislature and the  
5 courts share the responsibility for enacting rules of evidence. The  
6 court's authority for enacting rules of evidence arises from a  
7 statutory delegation of that responsibility to the court and from  
8 Article IV, section 1 of the state Constitution.    *State v. Fields*, 85  
9 Wn.2d 126, 129, 530 P.2d 284 (1975).

10           The legislature's authority for enacting rules of evidence arises  
11 from the Washington supreme court's prior classification of such rules  
12 as substantive law. See *State v. Sears*, 4 Wn.2d 200, 215, 103 P.2d 337  
13 (1940) (the legislature has the power to enact laws which create rules  
14 of evidence); *State v. Pavelich*, 153 Wash. 379, 279 P. 1102 (1929)  
15 ("rules of evidence are substantiative law").

16           The legislature adopts this exception to Evidence Rule 404(b) to  
17 ensure that juries receive the necessary evidence to reach a just and  
18 fair verdict.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 10.58 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        (1) In a criminal action in which the defendant is accused of a sex  
4 offense, evidence of the defendant's commission of another sex offense  
5 or sex offenses is admissible, notwithstanding Evidence Rule 404(b),  
6 if the evidence is not inadmissible pursuant to Evidence Rule 403.

7        (2) In a case in which the state intends to offer evidence under  
8 this rule, the attorney for the state shall disclose the evidence to  
9 the defendant, including statements of witnesses or a summary of the  
10 substance of any testimony that is expected to be offered, at least  
11 fifteen days before the scheduled date of trial or at such later time  
12 as the court may allow for good cause.

13        (3) This section shall not be construed to limit the admission or  
14 consideration of evidence under any other evidence rule.

15        (4) For purposes of this section, "sex offense" means:

16        (a) Any offense defined as a sex offense by RCW 9.94A.030;

17        (b) Any violation under RCW 9A.44.096 (sexual misconduct with a  
18 minor in the second degree); and

19        (c) Any violation under RCW 9.68A.090 (communication with a minor  
20 for immoral purposes).

21        (5) For purposes of this section, uncharged conduct is included in  
22 the definition of "sex offense."

23        (6) When evaluating whether evidence of the defendant's commission  
24 of another sexual offense or offenses should be excluded pursuant to  
25 Evidence Rule 403, the trial judge shall consider the following  
26 factors:

27        (a) The similarity of the prior acts to the acts charged;

28        (b) The closeness in time of the prior acts to the acts charged;

29        (c) The frequency of the prior acts;

30        (d) The presence or lack of intervening circumstances;

31        (e) The necessity of the evidence beyond the testimonies already  
32 offered at trial;

33        (f) Whether the prior act was a criminal conviction;

34        (g) Whether the probative value is substantially outweighed by the  
35 danger of unfair prejudice, confusion of the issues, or misleading the  
36 jury, or by considerations of undue delay, waste of time, or needless  
37 presentation of cumulative evidence; and

38        (h) Other facts and circumstances.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    Section 2 of this act applies to any case  
2    that is tried on or after its adoption.

      Passed by the Senate March 10, 2008.

      Passed by the House March 5, 2008.

      Approved by the Governor March 20, 2008.

      Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 21, 2008.