SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6504

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Senate Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senator Hargrove; by request of Department of Labor & Industries)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/10.

1 AN ACT Relating to the crime victims' compensation program; 2 amending RCW 7.68.070, 7.68.085, 9A.82.110, 72.09.111, and 72.09.480; 3 adding a new section to chapter 7.68 RCW; providing an effective date; 4 providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 7.68.070 and 2009 c 38 s 1 are each amended to read as 7 follows:

8 The right to benefits under this chapter and the amount thereof 9 will be governed insofar as is applicable by the provisions contained 10 in chapter 51.32 RCW except as provided in this section, provided that 11 <u>no more than fifty thousand dollars shall be paid per claim</u>:

12 (1) The provisions contained in RCW 51.32.015, 51.32.030,
13 51.32.072, 51.32.073, 51.32.180, 51.32.190, and 51.32.200 are not
14 applicable to this chapter.

15 (2) Each victim injured as a result of a criminal act, including 16 criminal acts committed between July 1, 1981, and January 1, 1983, or 17 the victim's family or dependents in case of death of the victim, are 18 entitled to benefits in accordance with this chapter, subject to the

limitations under RCW 7.68.015. The rights, duties, responsibilities,
 limitations, and procedures applicable to a worker as contained in RCW
 51.32.010 are applicable to this chapter.

4 (3) The limitations contained in RCW 51.32.020 are applicable to
5 claims under this chapter. In addition thereto, no person or spouse,
6 child, or dependent of such person is entitled to benefits under this
7 chapter when the injury for which benefits are sought, was:

8 (a) The result of consent, provocation, or incitement by the 9 victim, unless an injury resulting from a criminal act caused the death 10 of the victim;

(b) Sustained while the crime victim was engaged in the attempt to commit, or the commission of, a felony; or

13 (c) Sustained while the victim was confined in any county or city jail, federal jail or prison or in any other federal institution, or 14 any state correctional institution maintained and operated by the 15 department of social and health services or the department 16 of corrections, prior to release from lawful custody; or confined or 17 18 living in any other institution maintained and operated by the 19 department of social and health services or the department of 20 corrections.

(4) The benefits established upon the death of a worker and 21 22 contained in RCW 51.32.050 shall be the benefits obtainable under this 23 chapter and provisions relating to payment contained in that section 24 shall equally apply under this chapter((: PROVIDED)), except that 25 benefits for burial expenses shall not exceed ((the amount paid by the 26 department in case of the death of a worker as provided in chapter 27 51.32 RCW in any claim: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if the criminal act results in the death of a victim who was not gainfully employed at the 28 time of the criminal act, and who was not so employed for at least 29 30 three consecutive months of the twelve months immediately preceding the 31 criminal act;

32 (a) Benefits payable to an eligible surviving spouse, where there 33 are no children of the victim at the time of the criminal act who have 34 survived the victim or where such spouse has legal custody of all of 35 his or her children, shall be limited to burial expenses and a lump sum 36 payment of seven thousand five hundred dollars without reference to 37 number of children, if any;

1 (b) Where any such spouse has legal custody of one or more but not 2 all of such children, then such burial expenses shall be paid, and such 3 spouse shall receive a lump sum payment of three thousand seven hundred 4 fifty dollars and any such child or children not in the legal custody 5 of such spouse shall receive a lump sum of three thousand seven hundred 6 fifty dollars to be divided equally among such child or children;

7 (c) If any such spouse does not have legal custody of any of the 8 children, the burial expenses shall be paid and the spouse shall 9 receive a lump sum payment of up to three thousand seven hundred fifty 10 dollars and any such child or children not in the legal custody of the 11 spouse shall receive a lump sum payment of up to three thousand seven 12 hundred fifty dollars to be divided equally among the child or 13 children;

14 (d) If no such spouse survives, then such burial expenses shall be 15 paid, and each surviving child of the victim at the time of the 16 criminal act shall receive a lump sum payment of three thousand seven 17 hundred fifty dollars up to a total of two such children and where 18 there are more than two such children the sum of seven thousand five 19 hundred dollars shall be divided equally among such children.

20 No other benefits may be paid or payable under these 21 circumstances)) six thousand five hundred dollars per claim.

22 (5) The benefits established in RCW 51.32.060 for permanent total 23 disability proximately caused by the criminal act shall be the benefits 24 obtainable under this chapter, and provisions relating to payment contained in that section apply under this chapter((+ PROVIDED)), 25 26 except that if a victim becomes permanently and totally disabled as a 27 proximate result of the criminal act ((and was not gainfully employed at the time of the criminal act)), the victim shall receive monthly 28 during the period of the disability the following percentages, where 29 30 applicable, of the average monthly wage determined as of the date of the criminal act pursuant to RCW 51.08.018: 31

32 (a) If married at the time of the criminal act, twenty-nine percent33 of the average monthly wage.

34 (b) If married with one child at the time of the criminal act,35 thirty-four percent of the average monthly wage.

36 (c) If married with two children at the time of the criminal act, 37 thirty-eight percent of the average monthly wage. (d) If married with three children at the time of the criminal act,
 forty-one percent of the average monthly wage.

3 (e) If married with four children at the time of the criminal act,
4 forty-four percent of the average monthly wage.

5 (f) If married with five or more children at the time of the 6 criminal act, forty-seven percent of the average monthly wage.

7 (g) If unmarried at the time of the criminal act, twenty-five8 percent of the average monthly wage.

9 (h) If unmarried with one child at the time of the criminal act,10 thirty percent of the average monthly wage.

(i) If unmarried with two children at the time of the criminal act,thirty-four percent of the average monthly wage.

13 (j) If unmarried with three children at the time of the criminal 14 act, thirty-seven percent of the average monthly wage.

15 (k) If unmarried with four children at the time of the criminal 16 act, forty percent of the average monthly wage.

17 (1) If unmarried with five or more children at the time of the 18 criminal act, forty-three percent of the average monthly wage.

19 (6) The benefits established in RCW 51.32.080 for permanent partial 20 disability shall be the benefits obtainable under this chapter, and 21 provisions relating to payment contained in that section equally apply 22 under this chapter, but shall not exceed seven thousand dollars per 23 claim.

24 (7) The benefits established in RCW 51.32.090 for temporary total disability shall be the benefits obtainable under this chapter, and 25 26 provisions relating to payment contained in that section apply under 27 this chapter((: PROVIDED)), except that no person is eligible for temporary total disability benefits under this chapter if such person 28 29 was not gainfully employed at the time of the criminal act((, and was 30 not so employed for at least three consecutive months of the twelve months immediately preceding the criminal act)). 31

32 (8) The benefits established in RCW 51.32.095 for continuation of 33 benefits during vocational rehabilitation shall be benefits obtainable 34 under this chapter, and provisions relating to payment contained in 35 that section apply under this chapter((÷ PROVIDED)), except that 36 benefits shall not exceed five thousand dollars for any single injury.

37 (9) The provisions for lump sum payment of benefits upon death or

permanent total disability as contained in RCW 51.32.130 apply under this chapter.

(10) The provisions relating to payment of benefits to, for or on
behalf of workers contained in RCW 51.32.040, 51.32.055, 51.32.100,
51.32.110, 51.32.120, 51.32.135, 51.32.140, 51.32.150, 51.32.160, and
51.32.210 are applicable to payment of benefits to, for or on behalf of
victims under this chapter.

8 (11) No person or spouse, child, or dependent of such person is 9 entitled to benefits under this chapter where the person making a claim 10 for such benefits has refused to give reasonable cooperation to state 11 or local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to apprehend and 12 convict the perpetrator(s) of the criminal act which gave rise to the 13 claim.

14 (12) In addition to other benefits provided under this chapter, 15 victims of sexual assault are entitled to receive appropriate 16 counseling. Fees for such counseling shall be determined by the 17 department in accordance with RCW 51.04.030, subject to the limitations 18 of RCW 7.68.080. Counseling services may include, if determined 19 appropriate by the department, counseling of members of the victim's 20 immediate family, other than the perpetrator of the assault.

(13) ((Except for medical benefits authorized under RCW 7.68.080, no more than thirty thousand dollars shall be granted as a result of a single injury or death, except that benefits granted as the result of total permanent disability or death shall not exceed forty thousand dollars.

26 (14))) Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter and Title
27 51 RCW, benefits payable for total temporary disability under
28 subsection (7) of this section, shall be limited to fifteen thousand
29 dollars.

30 (((15))) <u>(14)</u> Any person who is responsible for the victim's 31 injuries, or who would otherwise be unjustly enriched as a result of 32 the victim's injuries, shall not be a beneficiary under this chapter.

33 (((16))) <u>(15)</u> Crime victims' compensation is not available to pay 34 for services covered under chapter 74.09 RCW or Title XIX of the 35 federal social security act, except to the extent that the costs for 36 such services exceed service limits established by the department of 37 social and health services or, during the 1993-95 fiscal biennium, to

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1 the extent necessary to provide matching funds for federal medicaid 2 reimbursement.

(((17))) (16) In addition to other benefits provided under this 3 chapter, immediate family members of a homicide victim may receive 4 appropriate counseling to assist in dealing with the immediate, near-5 6 term consequences of the related effects of the homicide. Fees for counseling shall be determined by the department in accordance with RCW 7 51.04.030, subject to the limitations of RCW 7.68.080. Payment of 8 9 counseling benefits under this section may not be provided to the 10 perpetrator of the homicide. The benefits under this subsection may be 11 provided only with respect to homicides committed on or after July 1, 1992. 12

13 (((18))) <u>(17)</u> A dependent mother, father, stepmother, or stepfather, as defined in RCW 51.08.050, who is a survivor of her or 14 15 his child's homicide, who has been requested by a law enforcement agency or a prosecutor to assist in the judicial proceedings related to 16 the death of the victim, and who is not domiciled in Washington state 17 at the time of the request, may receive a lump-sum payment upon arrival 18 in this state. Total benefits under this subsection may not exceed 19 seven thousand five hundred dollars. If more than one dependent parent 20 21 is eligible for this benefit, the lump-sum payment of seven thousand 22 five hundred dollars shall be divided equally among the dependent 23 parents.

(((19))) <u>(18)</u> A victim whose crime occurred in another state who qualifies for benefits under RCW 7.68.060(4) may receive appropriate mental health counseling to address distress arising from participation in the civil commitment proceedings. Fees for counseling shall be determined by the department in accordance with RCW 51.04.030, subject to the limitations of RCW 7.68.080.

30 (19) A victim who has been convicted of a felony within five years 31 preceding the criminal act for which they are applying which is a 32 violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030 or a crime against persons under 33 RCW 9.94A.411, or who is convicted of such a felony after applying, is 34 not eligible for benefits under this act.

35 **Sec. 2.** RCW 7.68.085 and 2009 c 479 s 9 are each amended to read 36 as follows:

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(1) This section has no force or effect from the effective date of
 this section until July 1, 2013.

3 (2) The director of labor and industries shall institute a cap on 4 medical benefits of one hundred fifty thousand dollars per injury or 5 death. Payment for medical services in excess of the cap shall be made 6 available to any innocent victim under the same conditions as other 7 medical services and if the medical services are:

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((((1)))) (a) Necessary for a previously accepted condition;

9 (((2))) <u>(b)</u> Necessary to protect the victim's life or prevent 10 deterioration of the victim's previously accepted condition; and

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(((3))) <u>(c)</u> Not available from an alternative source.

For the purposes of this section, an individual will not be required to use his or her assets other than funds recovered as a result of a civil action or criminal restitution, for medical expenses or pain and suffering, in order to qualify for an alternative source of payment.

The director shall, in cooperation with the department of social and health services, establish by October 1, 1989, a process to aid crime victims in identifying and applying for appropriate alternative benefit programs, if any, administered by the department of social and health services.

22 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 7.68 RCW 23 to read as follows:

The crime victims' compensation account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the crime victims' compensation program under this chapter. Only the director of the department or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

31 **Sec. 4.** RCW 9A.82.110 and 2009 c 479 s 11 are each amended to read 32 as follows:

(1) In an action brought by the attorney general on behalf of the
 state under RCW 9A.82.100(1)(b)(i) in which the state prevails, any
 payments ordered in excess of the actual damages sustained shall be

1 deposited in the ((state general fund)) crime victims' compensation
2 account provided in section 3 of this act.

3 (2)(a) The county legislative authority may establish an 4 antiprofiteering revolving fund to be administered by the county 5 prosecuting attorney under the conditions and for the purposes provided by this subsection. Disbursements from the fund shall be б on 7 authorization of the county prosecuting attorney. No appropriation is 8 required for disbursements.

(b) Any prosecution and investigation costs, including attorney's 9 10 fees, recovered for the state by the county prosecuting attorney as a result of enforcement of civil and criminal statutes pertaining to any 11 12 offense included in the definition of criminal profiteering, whether by 13 final judgment, settlement, or otherwise, shall be deposited, as directed by a court of competent jurisdiction, in the fund established 14 by this subsection. In an action brought by a prosecuting attorney on 15 behalf of the county under RCW 9A.82.100(1)(b)(i) in which the county 16 17 prevails, any payments ordered in excess of the actual damages 18 sustained shall be deposited in the ((state general fund)) crime victims' compensation account provided in section 3 of this act. 19

(c) The county legislative authority may prescribe a maximum level of moneys in the antiprofiteering revolving fund. Moneys exceeding the prescribed maximum shall be transferred to the county current expense fund.

(d) The moneys in the fund shall be used by the county prosecuting attorney for the investigation and prosecution of any offense, within the jurisdiction of the county prosecuting attorney, included in the definition of criminal profiteering, including civil enforcement.

(e) If a county has not established an antiprofiteering revolving
 fund, any payments or forfeitures ordered to the county under this
 chapter shall be deposited to the county current expense fund.

31 **Sec. 5.** RCW 72.09.111 and 2009 c 479 s 60 are each amended to read 32 as follows:

(1) The secretary shall deduct taxes and legal financial obligations from the gross wages, gratuities, or workers' compensation benefits payable directly to the inmate under chapter 51.32 RCW, of each inmate working in correctional industries work programs, or otherwise receiving such wages, gratuities, or benefits. The secretary

1 shall also deduct child support payments from the gratuities of each 2 inmate working in class II through class IV correctional industries 3 work programs. The secretary shall develop a formula for the 4 distribution of offender wages, gratuities, and benefits. The formula 5 shall not reduce the inmate account below the indigency level, as 6 defined in RCW 72.09.015.

7 (a) The formula shall include the following minimum deductions from
8 class I gross wages and from all others earning at least minimum wage:

9 (i) Five percent to the ((state general fund)) crime victims'
 10 compensation account provided in section 3 of this act;

11 (ii) Ten percent to a department personal inmate savings account;

12 (iii) Twenty percent to the department to contribute to the cost of 13 incarceration; and

14 (iv) Twenty percent for payment of legal financial obligations for 15 all inmates who have legal financial obligations owing in any 16 Washington state superior court.

(b) The formula shall include the following minimum deductions fromclass II gross gratuities:

19 (i) Five percent to the ((state general fund)) crime victims' 20 compensation account provided in section 3 of this act;

21 (ii) Ten percent to a department personal inmate savings account;

(iii) Fifteen percent to the department to contribute to the cost of incarceration;

(iv) Twenty percent for payment of legal financial obligations for
 all inmates who have legal financial obligations owing in any
 Washington state superior court; and

(v) Fifteen percent for any child support owed under a supportorder.

(c) The formula shall include the following minimum deductions from
 any workers' compensation benefits paid pursuant to RCW 51.32.080:

31 (i) Five percent to the ((state general fund)) crime victims' 32 compensation account provided in section 3 of this act;

33 (ii) Ten percent to a department personal inmate savings account;

34 (iii) Twenty percent to the department to contribute to the cost of 35 incarceration; and

36 (iv) An amount equal to any legal financial obligations owed by the 37 inmate established by an order of any Washington state superior court 38 up to the total amount of the award. (d) The formula shall include the following minimum deductions from
 class III gratuities:

3 (i) Five percent for the ((state general fund)) crime victims'
4 compensation account provided in section 3 of this act; and

5 (ii) Fifteen percent for any child support owed under a support 6 order.

7 (e) The formula shall include the following minimum deduction from8 class IV gross gratuities:

9 (i) Five percent to the department to contribute to the cost of 10 incarceration; and

11 (ii) Fifteen percent for any child support owed under a support 12 order.

13 (2) Any person sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility 14 of release or parole under chapter 10.95 RCW or sentenced to death 15 shall be exempt from the requirement under subsection (1)(a)(ii), 16 (b)(ii), or (c)(ii).

17 (3)(a) The department personal inmate savings account, together 18 with any accrued interest, shall only be available to an inmate at the 19 following times:

20 (i) The time of his or her release from confinement;

(ii) Prior to his or her release from confinement in order to secure approved housing; or

23 (iii) When the secretary determines that an emergency exists for 24 the inmate.

(b) If funds are made available pursuant to (a)(ii) or (iii) of this subsection, the funds shall be made available to the inmate in an amount determined by the secretary.

(c) The management of classes I, II, and IV correctional industries may establish an incentive payment for offender workers based on productivity criteria. This incentive shall be paid separately from the hourly wage/gratuity rate and shall not be subject to the specified deduction for cost of incarceration.

33 (4)(a) Subject to availability of funds for the correctional 34 industries program, the expansion of inmate employment in class I and 35 class II correctional industries shall be implemented according to the 36 following schedule:

37 (i) Not later than June 30, 2005, the secretary shall achieve a net

increase of at least two hundred in the number of inmates employed in class I or class II correctional industries work programs above the number so employed on June 30, 2003;

4 (ii) Not later than June 30, 2006, the secretary shall achieve a 5 net increase of at least four hundred in the number of inmates employed 6 in class I or class II correctional industries work programs above the 7 number so employed on June 30, 2003;

8 (iii) Not later than June 30, 2007, the secretary shall achieve a 9 net increase of at least six hundred in the number of inmates employed 10 in class I or class II correctional industries work programs above the 11 number so employed on June 30, 2003;

12 (iv) Not later than June 30, 2008, the secretary shall achieve a 13 net increase of at least nine hundred in the number of inmates employed 14 in class I or class II correctional industries work programs above the 15 number so employed on June 30, 2003;

16 (v) Not later than June 30, 2009, the secretary shall achieve a net 17 increase of at least one thousand two hundred in the number of inmates 18 employed in class I or class II correctional industries work programs 19 above the number so employed on June 30, 2003;

(vi) Not later than June 30, 2010, the secretary shall achieve a net increase of at least one thousand five hundred in the number of inmates employed in class I or class II correctional industries work programs above the number so employed on June 30, 2003.

(b) Failure to comply with the schedule in this subsection does notcreate a private right of action.

(5) In the event that the offender worker's wages, gratuity, or workers' compensation benefit is subject to garnishment for support enforcement, the ((state general fund)) crime victims' compensation account, savings, and cost of incarceration deductions shall be calculated on the net wages after taxes, legal financial obligations, and garnishment.

32 (6) The department shall explore other methods of recovering a 33 portion of the cost of the inmate's incarceration and for encouraging 34 participation in work programs, including development of incentive 35 programs that offer inmates benefits and amenities paid for only from 36 wages earned while working in a correctional industries work program.

37 (7) The department shall develop the necessary administrative38 structure to recover inmates' wages and keep records of the amount

inmates pay for the costs of incarceration and amenities. All funds deducted from inmate wages under subsection (1) of this section for the purpose of contributions to the cost of incarceration shall be deposited in a dedicated fund with the department and shall be used only for the purpose of enhancing and maintaining correctional industries work programs.

(8) It shall be in the discretion of the secretary to apportion the
inmates between class I and class II depending on available contracts
and resources.

10 (9) Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the 11 department of social and health services division of child support from 12 taking collection action against an inmate's moneys, assets, or 13 property pursuant to chapter 26.23, 74.20, or 74.20A RCW.

14 **Sec. 6.** RCW 72.09.480 and 2009 c 479 s 61 are each amended to read 15 as follows:

(1) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitionsin this section apply to this section.

(a) "Cost of incarceration" means the cost of providing an inmate with shelter, food, clothing, transportation, supervision, and other services and supplies as may be necessary for the maintenance and support of the inmate while in the custody of the department, based on the average per inmate costs established by the department and the office of financial management.

(b) "Minimum term of confinement" means the minimum amount of time
an inmate will be confined in the custody of the department,
considering the sentence imposed and adjusted for the total potential
earned early release time available to the inmate.

(c) "Program" means any series of courses or classes necessary to
 achieve a proficiency standard, certificate, or postsecondary degree.

30 (2) When an inmate, except as provided in subsections (4) and (8) 31 of this section, receives any funds in addition to his or her wages or 32 gratuities, except settlements or awards resulting from legal action, 33 the additional funds shall be subject to the following deductions and 34 the priorities established in chapter 72.11 RCW:

35 (a) Five percent to the ((state general fund)) crime victims'
 36 compensation account provided in section 3 of this act;

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(b) Ten percent to a department personal inmate savings account;

(c) Twenty percent for payment of legal financial obligations for
 all inmates who have legal financial obligations owing in any
 Washington state superior court;

4 (d) Twenty percent for any child support owed under a support 5 order; and

6 (e) Twenty percent to the department to contribute to the cost of 7 incarceration.

8 (3) When an inmate, except as provided in subsection (8) of this 9 section, receives any funds from a settlement or award resulting from 10 a legal action, the additional funds shall be subject to the deductions 11 in RCW 72.09.111(1)(a) and the priorities established in chapter 72.11 12 RCW.

(4) When an inmate who is subject to a child support order receives funds from an inheritance, the deduction required under subsection (2)(e) of this section shall only apply after the child support obligation has been paid in full.

17 (5) The amount deducted from an inmate's funds under subsection (2) 18 of this section shall not exceed the department's total cost of 19 incarceration for the inmate incurred during the inmate's minimum or 20 actual term of confinement, whichever is longer.

(6)(a) The deductions required under subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to funds received by the department from an offender or from a third party on behalf of an offender for payment of education or vocational programs or postsecondary education degree programs as provided in RCW 72.09.460 and 72.09.465.

(b) The deductions required under subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to funds received by the department from a third party, including but not limited to a nonprofit entity on behalf of the department's education, vocation, or postsecondary education degree programs.

(7) The deductions required under subsection (2) of this section 31 32 shall not apply to any money received by the department, on behalf of an inmate, from family or other outside sources for the payment of 33 postage expenses. Money received under this subsection may only be 34 35 used for the payment of postage expenses and may not be transferred to 36 any other account or purpose. Money that remains unused in the 37 inmate's postage fund at the time of release shall be subject to the deductions outlined in subsection (2) of this section. 38

1 (8) When an inmate sentenced to life imprisonment without 2 possibility of release or sentenced to death under chapter 10.95 RCW 3 receives funds, deductions are required under subsection (2) of this 4 section, with the exception of a personal inmate savings account under 5 subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(9) The secretary of the department of corrections, or his or her
designee, may exempt an inmate from a personal inmate savings account
under subsection (2)(b) of this section if the inmate's earliest
release date is beyond the inmate's life expectancy.

10 (10) The interest earned on an inmate savings account created as a 11 result of the plan in section 4, chapter 325, Laws of 1999 shall be 12 exempt from the mandatory deductions under this section and RCW 13 72.09.111.

14 (11) Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the 15 department of social and health services division of child support, the 16 county clerk, or a restitution recipient from taking collection action 17 against an inmate's moneys, assets, or property pursuant to chapter 18 9.94A, 26.23, 74.20, or 74.20A RCW including, but not limited to, the 19 collection of moneys received by the inmate from settlements or awards 20 resulting from legal action.

21 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 7. Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary 22 for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, 23 or support of the state government and its existing public 24 institutions, and take effect April 1, 2010.

25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 8. Sections 1 and 2 of this act expire July 1, 26 2013.

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