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<u>SSB 5545</u> - H AMD TO PSEP COMM AMD (H2327.1/11) **448** By Representative Appleton

NOT CONSIDERED 04/22/2011

1 On page 7, line 3 of the striking amendment, after "offenses." 2 strike all material through "<u>defendant</u>." on line 12 and insert the 3 following:

4 "(2) Law enforcement and prosecution agencies ((shall not)) may 5 employ minors to aid in the investigation of a violation of RCW 6 9.68A.090 or 9.68A.100 through 9.68A.102 for the purpose of 7 facilitating an investigation where the minor is also the alleged 8 victim, subject to the following requirements:

9 (a) The law enforcement or prosecution agency has called a crime 10 victim advocate from a crime victim/witness program or any other 11 support person of the victim's choosing to advise the minor;

12 (b) The minor is advised of his or her rights under RCW 7.69A.030;
13 (c) The minor is advised of the risk that the alleged perpetrator
14 may learn of his or her participation in the investigation; and

15 (d)(i) The investigation is authorized pursuant to RCW
16 9.73.230(1)(b)(ii) or 9.73.210(1)(b); or

17 (ii) The minor's aid in the investigation involves only telephone 18 or electronic communication with the defendant."

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20 Renumber the remaining subsections consecutively and correct any 21 internal references accordingly.

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23 On page 8, after line 32 of the striking amendment, insert the 24 following:

25 "Sec. 5. RCW 7.69A.030 and 2004 c 120 s 9 are each amended to 26 read as follows:

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In addition to the rights of victims and witnesses provided for in RCW 7.69.030, there shall be every reasonable effort made by law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and judges to assure that child victims and witnesses are afforded the rights enumerated in this section. Except as provided in RCW 7.69A.050 regarding child victims or child witnesses of violent crimes, sex crimes, or child abuse, the renumeration of rights shall not be construed to create substantive rights and duties, and the application of an enumerated right in an individual case is subject to the discretion of the law enforcement agency, prosecutor, or judge. Child victims and witnesses have the following rights, which apply to any criminal court and/or juvenile court proceeding, as well as employment of a minor in an investigation pursuant to RCW 9.68A.110:

14 (1) To have explained in language easily understood by the child, 15 all legal proceedings and/or police investigations in which the child 16 may be involved.

(2) With respect to child victims of sex or violent crimes or 17 18 child abuse, to have a crime victim advocate from а crime 19 victim/witness program, or any other support person of the victim's 20 choosing, present at any prosecutorial or defense interviews with the This subsection applies if practical and if the 21 child victim. 22 presence of the crime victim advocate or support person does not cause 23 any unnecessary delay in the investigation or prosecution of the case. 24 The role of the crime victim advocate is to provide emotional support 25 to the child victim and to promote the child's feelings of security 26 and safety.

27 (3) To be provided, whenever possible, a secure waiting area 28 during court proceedings and to have an advocate or support person 29 remain with the child prior to and during any court proceedings.

30 (4) To not have the names, addresses, nor photographs of the 31 living child victim or witness disclosed by any law enforcement 32 agency, prosecutor's office, or state agency without the permission of 33 the child victim, child witness, parents, or legal guardians to anyone 34 except another law enforcement agency, prosecutor, defense counsel, or

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1 private or governmental agency that provides services to the child 2 victim or witness.

3 (5) To allow an advocate to make recommendations to the 4 prosecuting attorney about the ability of the child to cooperate with 5 prosecution and the potential effect of the proceedings on the child.

6 (6) To allow an advocate to provide information to the court 7 concerning the child's ability to understand the nature of the 8 proceedings.

9 (7) To be provided information or appropriate referrals to social 10 service agencies to assist the child and/or the child's family with 11 the emotional impact of the crime, the subsequent investigation, and 12 judicial proceedings in which the child is involved.

13 (8) To allow an advocate to be present in court while the child14 testifies in order to provide emotional support to the child.

15 (9) To provide information to the court as to the need for the 16 presence of other supportive persons at the court proceedings while 17 the child testifies in order to promote the child's feelings of 18 security and safety.

19 (10) To allow law enforcement agencies the opportunity to enlist 20 the assistance of other professional personnel such as child 21 protection services, victim advocates or prosecutorial staff trained 22 in the interviewing of the child victim.

(11) With respect to child victims of violent or sex crimes or child abuse, to receive either directly or through the child's parent or guardian if appropriate, at the time of reporting the crime to law enforcement officials, a written statement of the rights of child victims as provided in this chapter. The written statement shall include the name, address, and telephone number of a county or local crime victim/witness program, if such a crime victim/witness program 30 exists in the county."

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32 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any 33 internal references accordingly.

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<u>EFFECT:</u> Requires that law enforcement or the prosecutor call a crime victim advocate or other support person of the victim's choosing to advise the minor. Extends the rights of child victims and witnesses in court proceedings to minors who participate in an investigation of Communication with a Minor for Immoral Purposes, Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor, Promoting Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor, and Promoting Travel for Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor.

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