
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1383

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Public Safety (originally sponsored by Representatives Pellicciotti, Kraft, Kilduff, Orwall, Dolan, Doglio, Ormsby, Ryu, Macri, Stanford, Appleton, Riccelli, and Leavitt)

READ FIRST TIME 02/18/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the crime of patronizing a
2 prostitute; amending RCW 9A.88.110; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9A.88.110 and 2017 c 232 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A person is guilty of patronizing a prostitute if:

7 (a) Pursuant to a prior understanding, he or she pays a fee to
8 another person as compensation for such person or a third person
9 having engaged in sexual conduct with him or her; or

10 (b) He or she pays or agrees to pay a fee to another person
11 pursuant to an understanding that in return therefor such person will
12 engage in sexual conduct with him or her; or

13 (c) He or she solicits or requests another person to engage in
14 sexual conduct with him or her in return for a fee.

15 (2) The crime of patronizing a prostitute may be committed in
16 more than one location. The crime is deemed to have been committed in
17 any location in which the defendant commits any act under subsection

18 (1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section that constitutes part of the
19 crime. A person who sends a communication to patronize a prostitute
20 is considered to have committed the crime both at the place from
21 which the contact was made pursuant to subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c)

1 of this section and where the communication is received, provided
2 that this section must be construed to prohibit anyone from being
3 prosecuted twice for substantially the same crime.

4 (3) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" has the
5 meaning given in RCW 9A.88.030.

6 (4) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, patronizing
7 a prostitute is a misdemeanor;

8 (b) A second or subsequent conviction under this section or under
9 an equivalent municipal ordinance is a gross misdemeanor.

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