
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6515

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senate Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Conway, Darneille, O'Ban, Becker, Zeiger, and Fortunato)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to the legal and geographical review requirements
2 for the conditional release of sexually violent predators to a less
3 restrictive alternative; creating a new section; and providing an
4 expiration date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) To reaffirm the legislature's intent
7 of equitable distribution of releases to prevent the disproportionate
8 grouping of persons subject to less restrictive orders in any one
9 geographical region, one county, or in any one jurisdiction or
10 community within a county, the legislature finds it is appropriate
11 for a release to a less restrictive alternative to occur in the
12 person's county of commitment first, then neighboring counties, prior
13 to the state considering or approving placement elsewhere. Despite
14 the intent of the legislature, appropriate treatment and facilities
15 that adequately protect the community are not available in all
16 counties. The legislature finds that this has led to the
17 disproportionate grouping of persons subject to less restrictive
18 orders in one geographical region, one county, or in any one
19 jurisdiction or community within a county. Therefore, it is the
20 intent of the legislature to establish a sexually violent predator
21 review group.

1 (2) To further this end, the Washington state sex offender policy
2 board shall establish and provide oversight, staff support, research,
3 and consultation to the sexually violent predator review group, led
4 by the sexually violent predator section chief in the attorney
5 general's office and shall contain, at minimum:

6 (a) A representative of the Washington association of sheriffs
7 and police chiefs;

8 (b) The chair or representative of the sexually violent predator
9 unit in the King county prosecutor's office;

10 (c) A representative from the office of public defense;

11 (d) A representative of the Pierce county prosecutor's office;

12 (e) A representative of the Washington association for the
13 treatment of sex abusers;

14 (f) A representative of the department of corrections unit
15 supervising sexually violent predators, or the end of sentence review
16 committee;

17 (g) A retired Washington state superior court judge;

18 (h) A representative of the Washington state association of
19 counties;

20 (i) A representative of the association of Washington cities; and

21 (j) The chief executive officer of the special commitment center,
22 or the chief executive officer's designee.

23 (3) As appropriate, the sexually violent predator review group
24 shall consult with the Washington institute for public policy and the
25 office of financial management's forecasting and research division.

26 (4) The sexually violent predator review group shall, at minimum,
27 meet with the sex offender policy board on a quarterly basis to
28 review progress and make requests for staff support, research, or
29 consultation.

30 (5) The sexually violent predator review group shall at minimum:

31 (a) Identify regional differences and challenges to developing
32 appropriate treatment and facilities for persons released to less
33 restrictive alternatives;

34 (b) Recommend methods to promote and increase the development of
35 appropriate treatment and facilities for persons released to a less
36 restrictive alternative statewide, targeting counties that do not
37 currently have appropriate services;

38 (c) Review currently available data of all less restrictive
39 alternative releases under this chapter both to county of commitment

1 and to other than county of commitment by county of commitment, and
2 by receiving county, and make recommendations accordingly;

3 (d) Develop a statewide repository to identify all certified
4 treatment providers under chapter 18.155 RCW by county;

5 (e) Recommend improvement strategies to the process for granting
6 releases to less restrictive alternatives;

7 (f) Recommend the appropriate procedures and level of involvement
8 for the department of social and health services and the department
9 of corrections in discharge planning, community supervision, and
10 developing appropriate treatment and facilities for persons released
11 to less restrictive alternatives; and

12 (g) Recommend statutory changes related to commitments and
13 releases under this chapter.

14 (6) By December 1, 2018, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,
15 the sexually violent predator review group must submit a report to
16 the legislature with findings and recommendations from subsection (5)
17 of this section and any legislative proposals.

18 (7) This section expires December 30, 2019.

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