



STATE OF WASHINGTON

SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMMISSION

Jefferson Building, PO Box 43124 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3124 • (360) 688-8511

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

February 28, 2025 12:00pm – 1:00pm

1500 Jefferson Building

Olympia, WA 98516

and Zoom

Members Present:

Hon. J. Wesley Saint Clair, Chair

Hon. Jeffery Swan

Greg Link

Secretary Tim Lang (proxy: Kristi Knudsen)

Ramona Brandes

Councilmember Carmen Rivera

Jeremiah Bourgeois

Chief Brian Smith/Chief Fuller

Amy Anselmi

Dr. Esther Matthews

Dr. Vasiliki Georgoulas-Sherry

Norrie Gregoire

Hon. Sharonda Amamilo

Hon. Veronica Galván

Guests:

Stephanie Budrus, DCYF

Allison Krutsinger, DCYF

Members Absent:

Rep. Tarra Simmons

Jennifer Redman

Senator Claire Wilson

Hon. Karen Donohue

Hon. Sharonda Amamilo

Commissioner Tye Menser

Hon. Josephine Wiggs

Jon Tunheim

Rochelle Cleland

Kecia Rongen

Staff:

Keri-Anne Jetzer

Whitney Hunt, SOPB

Dr. Lauren Knoth-Peterson, PSPRC

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Judge Saint Clair called the meeting to order.

II. DRAFT LEGISLATIVE BILLS

Keri-Anne informed members that the bills related to juvenile emergency management were amended and then passed out of fiscal committees yesterday. The amended information was not included in the materials shared with members. She suggested waiting to address those bills at the next meeting so she and Dr. Knoth-Peterson can provide members with updated information. Chair Judge Saint Clair thought that would be appropriate. Members had a few questions for Allison Krutsinger and Stephanie Budrus from DCYF about fiscal notes and community placements.

ESSB 5219 - Concerning partial confinement eligibility and alignment.

Keri-Anne briefed members on the bill. Ramona Brandes and Kristi Knudsen shared more details about the bill.

MOTION #25-36: SUPPORT ESSB 5219

MOVED: Ramona Brandes

SECONDED: Dr. Matthews

PASSED: Y – 8; N - 0

ABSTAIN: Dr. Georgoulas-Sherry, Amy Anselmi, Norrie Gregoire, Judge Amamilo, Chief Smith

SB 5366 - Concerning exceptional sentences for offenses which result in the pregnancy of a victim of rape.

Ramona Brandes thought the bill itself was defining who or what could be included in an aggravating factor, which may not be of interest to the SGC. However, she noted there are several factors that require aggravating factors to have a separate hearing during trial. As aggravating factors have been added, this consideration (see RCW 9.94A.537(4)) has not been given by the Legislature and she suggested they consider it in this bill.

**MOTION #25-37: OTHER ON SB 5366 WITH A RECOMMENDATION TO
CONSIDER IF THIS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN LIST OF
OFFENSES FOUND UNDER RCW 9.94A.537(4).**

MOVED: Ramona Brandes

SECONDED: Judge Swan

PASSED: Y – 8; N - 0

ABSTAIN: Dr. Georgoulas-Sherry, Amy Anselmi, Norrie Gregoire, Kristi Knudsen

HB 1317 - Concerning persons serving long sentences for offenses committed prior to reaching 21 years of age.

Keri-Anne briefed members on the bill. She informed members that it has recently been amended but that she did not have that information at hand.

MOTION #25-38: SUPPORT HB 1317

MOVED: Jeremiah Bourgeois

SECONDED: Greg Link

PASSED: Y – 7; N - 0

ABSTAIN: Dr. Georgoulas-Sherry, Norrie Gregoire, Chief Smith

SHB 1391 Improving developmentally appropriate alternatives for youth outside the formal court process.

Keri-Anne briefed members on the bill. Norrie Gregoire talked about his county's diversion programs and replied to questions about the reporting that Administrative Office of the Courts would be directed to complete and removal of barriers to participation found in the bill.

MOTION #25-39: SUPPORT SHB 1391

MOVED: Jeremiah Bourgeois

SECONDED: Chief Smith

PASSED: Y – 9; N - 0

ABSTAIN: Dr. Georgoulas-Sherry, Kristi Knudsen

HB 1487/SSB 5362 – Concerning victims of crime act funding.

Keri-Anne briefed members on the bill and relayed information she heard during the bill’s testimony. She inquired if the SGC would like to take a position on this bill.

Chief Smith hoped that the SGC would take a position on the bill, noting that there is not much legislative advocacy for this and reductions in federal funding directly affect services available at the local level. Dr. Matthews agreed that funding is going to be drastically reduced, and it is a concern of many.

Greg Link suggested that this is outside of the SGC’s purview, noting that the SGC has not taken a position on a current public defense bill and that this bill is not directly related to sentencing. Judge Swan agreed that the SGC shouldn’t take a position on a funding issue. Chief Smith understood that this may be outside of the SGC’s lane.

Chair Judge Saint Clair questioned if previously the SGC has acknowledged that a bill is out of scope for the SGC but still supported it when it was related to “good practice”. Dr. Matthews mentioned teaching about the vicious circle of victimization and incarceration. She felt that this bill could help stop the cycle of harm. In response to Chair Saint Clair’s question, Keri-Anne recalled that the SGC had taken positions on reentry bills and others that provided evidence-based training to those leaving the criminal legal system.

Jeremiah Bourgeois said that if there is an upcoming hearing and if Chief Smith was interested in presenting in his individual capacity, that he would join the Chief in supporting the bill. Chief Smith liked the idea offered to connect with Jeremiah offline to discuss.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present at the end of the meeting.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMMISSION



5/9/25

Judge J. Wesley Saint Clair (Ret), Chair

Date