

EFFECT:

- Adds an effective date contingent on the Legislature passing legislation modifying the evidentiary threshold required for a peace officer to engage in a vehicular pursuit from probable cause to reasonable suspicion.

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of a model vehicle pursuit policy
2 for law enforcement agencies and the creation of a vehicle pursuit
3 technology grant program; adding new sections to chapter 43.101 RCW;
4 and providing a contingent effective date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) The commission shall convene a work group to develop a model
9 vehicle pursuit policy for peace officers.

10 (2) The commission must ensure that the work group is comprised
11 of community and law enforcement stakeholders, including the
12 following: Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs;
13 Washington state patrol; Washington fraternal order of police;
14 Washington council of police and sheriffs; Washington state patrol
15 troopers association; council of metropolitan police and sheriffs;
16 teamsters local 117; families who have lost loved ones as a result of
17 violent interactions with law enforcement; an organization advocating
18 for civil rights; a statewide organization advocating for Black
19 Americans; a statewide organization advocating for Latinos; a
20 statewide organization advocating for Asian Americans, Pacific
21 Islanders, and Native Hawaiians; a federally recognized tribe located

1 in Washington state; a community organization from eastern Washington
2 working on police accountability; a community organization from
3 western Washington working on police accountability; a community
4 organization serving persons who are unhoused; the faith-based
5 community with advocacy on police accountability; a community
6 organization working on traffic safety issues; and a statewide
7 organization working on police accountability.

8 (3) The model policy work group shall consider:

- 9 (a) Circumstances where vehicle pursuits may not be justified;
- 10 (b) Circumstances where vehicle pursuits may be justified;
- 11 (c) Circumstances where peace officers should consider the use of
- 12 tactics other than engaging in a vehicle pursuit;
- 13 (d) Procedures and tactics for officers engaged in a pursuit;
- 14 (e) Responsibilities of the primary responding unit;
- 15 (f) Supervision of pursuit activities;
- 16 (g) The responsibilities of dispatch when an officer is engaged
- 17 in a vehicle pursuit;
- 18 (h) Factors influencing the termination of a pursuit;
- 19 (i) Factors related to interjurisdictional pursuits;
- 20 (j) Care and consideration of victims and injured persons; and
- 21 (k) Information to be included in reports related to the pursuit.

22 (4) A law enforcement agency may submit to the work group for its
23 review and consideration a preferred vehicle pursuit policy.

24 (5) The commission shall present the model vehicle pursuit policy
25 as its recommendation to the appropriate committees of the
26 legislature and publish the model policy on its website no later than
27 October 31, 2024.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
31 specific purpose, the commission shall develop and implement a law
32 enforcement technology grant program for the purpose of providing law
33 enforcement with modern vehicle pursuit management technology
34 including but not limited to GPS tracking equipment, automated
35 license plate reading technology, and drones.

36 (2) Grants must be awarded to local law enforcement agencies
37 based on locally developed proposals. The commission shall establish
38 policies for applications under this section in addition to criteria
39 for evaluating and selecting grant recipients. A proposal must

1 include a request for specific technology and a specific plan for the
2 implementation and use of that technology.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) This act takes effect when any other
4 act takes effect that modifies the evidentiary threshold required for
5 a peace officer to engage in a vehicular pursuit from probable cause
6 to reasonable suspicion. The modified evidentiary threshold must
7 permit law enforcement officers to engage in a vehicle pursuit if
8 there is reasonable suspicion that a person in the vehicle has
9 committed or is committing a crime as designated in RCW 10.116.060.

10 (2) The Washington state patrol must provide written notice of
11 the effective date of this act to affected parties, the chief clerk
12 of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the
13 office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the
14 Washington state patrol.

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