

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5047**

55th Legislature  
1997 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate March 7, 1997  
YEAS 40 NAYS 8

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 15, 1997  
YEAS 75 NAYS 22

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**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved

CERTIFICATE

I, Mike O Connell, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5047** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 5047**

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Passed Legislature - 1997 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1997 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Benton and Zarelli

Read first time 01/13/97. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to arming community corrections officers; adding a  
2 new section to chapter 72.02 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring  
3 an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 72.02 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Community corrections officers may carry firearms during the  
8 course of their official field duties. The department is not  
9 responsible for providing or paying for firearms, materials, equipment,  
10 or training associated with implementation of this policy. A community  
11 corrections officer who chooses to be armed under this section shall,  
12 at his or her own expense, arrange for and complete any necessary  
13 training. In addition, a community corrections officer who chooses to  
14 be armed under this section shall, at his or her own expense, provide  
15 his or her own firearm as well as any associated materials and  
16 equipment needed by the officer in order to carry a firearm.

17 (2) Nothing in this section makes community corrections officers  
18 eligible for membership in the law enforcement officers' and  
19 firefighters' retirement system under chapter 41.26 RCW.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    (1) By December 1, 1997, the criminal  
2 justice training commission shall set the following standards and  
3 requirements for implementing section 1 of this act:

4        The commission shall determine the types of firearms that community  
5 corrections officers are permitted to carry and the permissible types  
6 of ammunition. The commission shall also set standards determining  
7 what constitutes necessary training. In so doing, the commission shall  
8 specify the nature of training that community corrections officers must  
9 complete or the level of competency community corrections officers must  
10 demonstrate, or both, in order to carry firearms under section 1 of  
11 this act. This may include periodic refresher training courses or  
12 competency reviews.

13        (2)(a) Before determining the standards and requirements in  
14 subsection (1) of this section, and no later than May 1, 1997, the  
15 criminal justice training commission shall convene an advisory board to  
16 make recommendations for developing these standards and requirements.  
17 The advisory board must have the following members:

18        (i) Two individuals designated by the commission who have been  
19 certified and approved by the commission to provide firearms  
20 instruction;

21        (ii) Two community corrections officers who are designated by the  
22 exclusive bargaining unit representing community corrections officers;  
23 and

24        (iii) One representative from the department of corrections  
25 designated by the secretary of the department of corrections.

26        (b) The advisory board shall deliver its recommendations to the  
27 criminal justice training commission no later than September 1, 1997.

28        (3) The department of corrections shall implement the policy  
29 contained in section 1 of this act allowing community corrections  
30 officers to carry firearms no later than January 1, 1998, but not  
31 before the criminal justice training commission has determined  
32 standards and requirements under this section.

33        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
34 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
35 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
36 immediately.

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