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Patrick Moran - President

Testimony

SB 870 - Drunk Driving Offenses - Ignition Interlock System Program

AFSCME supports SB 870. This legislation would add driving while impaired by a drug to the current reasons that an individual would participate in an Ignition Interlock Program. This program has been important to protecting the safety of drivers across the state.

We have, however, an amendment that we would like to offer for your consideration. AFSCME represents the employees of Parole and Probation that are in the Drinking Driver Monitoring Program. Like many other agencies in the state, these employees have high caseloads, and supervise over 11,000 individuals with drinking and driving issues. Presumably, they may also be involved in supervising these additional individuals.

Currently, both the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and the Division of Parole and Probation (P&P) monitor individuals for compliance with requirements by the Courts to utilize these devices. This means there is a clear duplication of efforts. We ask, that, at minimum, that new individuals that may be utilizing Interlock Devices be monitored solely by the MVA, while Parole and Probation supervises other aspects of their sentence. Secondly, if it is possible, we would urge the committee to consider extending this same division of labor for monitoring those currently required to use an Interlock Device.

This suggestion is recommended in order to avoid duplication of efforts and in order to help the Drinking Driver Monitors to deal more effectively with their caseloads. Thank you for your consideration of this amendment.

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An employee has the right to a union representative if requested by the employee.
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