

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

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Serving the Law Enforcement Community & the Citizens of Washington

Policy Governing the Adoption of Legislative Positions and Model Policies Adopted March 12, 2008



Policy:

It is the policy of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to operate in a way that strengthens the influence of the Association and its members in the State Legislature and Congress. Much of the influence of WASPC comes as a result of the unified voice of law enforcement executives.

WASPC intends, as an association, to avoid taking position on issues where there is not a consensus of the membership. The WASPC membership, as a matter of policy, recognizes that the various constituent groups may have different positions on some policy/legislative matters. WASPC will avoid taking a position that is contrary to the position any of its constituent groups.

Procedure:

Members of WASPC are encouraged to suggest potential legislation or model policy to the Legislative or Model Policy Committees. The committees will consider the proposed policy and/or legislation. With regard to legislation, the Legislative Committee will forward with recommendation a legislative agenda to the Executive Board for consideration. The same procedures shall apply to the Model Policy Committee and proposed model policies.

Legislative agendas, model policies, and issue positions will be reviewed by the Executive Board and either approved or modified. Any legislative agenda and/or position must be approved by at least ten voting members of the Executive Board.

If at the next General Membership Meeting or Sheriff's Association Meeting or Police Chiefs Meeting following the adoption of a Legislative Position, a majority of the either the Sheriffs or Police Chiefs present object to the position taken by the Executive Board, that position shall be revoked and the Association shall officially have "no position" on that issue.

In the interest of time, the Executive Board may consider adopting a legislative position without review of the Legislative Committee. The same procedures as previously stated shall apply to this direct consideration.

Nothing in this policy shall alter the policy of the Association that allows the Executive Director and his or her designee to take position on matters of legislation where time is of the essence.

Model Policy recommendations shall be reviewed by the Executive Board and forwarded to the membership upon a vote of at least 8 of the executive board voting members.

Model Policies will be considered by the full membership at the general business meetings and shall be considered adopted upon a vote of at least 75% of the membership votes.