

Resolution No. 1998-31

[\(Council Minutes 98/09/21\)](#)

RESOLUTION NO. 1998-31

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, expressing its opposition to the implementation of the Intensive Parole Supervision program as currently in place, and requests the Washington State Legislature and Governor to implement program changes to solve problems under the current system

WHEREAS, pursuant to recent amendments in state law, the State of Washington Juvenile Justice Administration has distributed a letter that details its new Intensive Parole Supervision program; and,

WHEREAS, this new program has already begun and is being implemented as follows:

Starting on August 1, 1998, all parolees who did not meet certain criteria for the Intensive Parole program are being directly discharged to their communities, with no supervision at all;

As of September 30, 1998, all parolees who did not meet the criteria for the Intensive Parole program, but who are still under supervision, having been released prior to the August 1, 1998 deadline, will be discharged from parole; and

As of October 1, 1998, Intensive Parole will be implemented to serve only qualifying offenders; and

WHEREAS, the new program will eliminate parole supervision for youth who do not have a mandatory 24 month parole or who are not considered to be at highest risk to re-offend; and

WHEREAS, the Intensive Parole program will only serve the following offenders:

- (a) The top 25% of the highest risk parolees, as determined by a risk assessment;
- (b) All level III sex offenders; and
- (c) All juvenile offenders being released from juvenile basic training camp; and,

WHEREAS, less than five percent of the Washington State juvenile offenders are sent to JRA (this State's juvenile equivalent to the adult prison system), and these juveniles are the highest risk offenders in the statewide juvenile justice system, leaving the remaining 95% of offenders in their respective communities, subject to local jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, the implementation of the new program, without additional money from the legislature, requires that JRA to eliminate parole supervision for many other juveniles currently being supervised or scheduled for release in the future, leaving some 45% of released juvenile offenders with no supervision; and,

WHEREAS, the appropriation needed to avert this serious problem is 1.3 Million Dollars statewide, and the state currently has a budget surplus, unlike local governments; and,

WHEREAS, the impact on Pierce County and its communities will be the annual placement of some 100-200 unsupervised high-risk juvenile offenders on the streets of Pierce County and Pierce County cities and communities; and,

WHEREAS, the program implementation will require additional work by Pierce County probation officers who already have extremely high caseloads.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES, as Follows:

Section 1. That the City Council of the City of Lakewood is opposed to the implementation of the Intensive Parole Supervision program as currently in place, and with the transmittal of a copy of this Resolution to the Washington State Legislature and to the Governor, urges the Governor and Legislature to implement the Intensive Parole program without impacting current parole services, and without reducing the parole supervision of juveniles in the State of Washington. The City Council, further, urges both the Governor and the Legislature to work together for an immediate solution that will keep all juveniles released by JRA under probation supervision for an appropriate period of time.

Section 2. That the City Clerk is directed and authorized to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Offices of the Governor of the State of Washington, and to the respective houses of the State Legislature.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

PASSED by the City Council this 21st day of September, 1998.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Bill Harrison, Mayor

Attest:

Alice M. Bush, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney

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