

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 1, 1999

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 18, 1999

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 12, 1999

SENATE BILL

No. 873

Introduced by Senator Vasconcellos

February 25, 1999

An act relating to sentencing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 873, as amended, Vasconcellos. Sentencing: prior convictions: joint study.

Existing law, known as the "3 strikes law" and codified in 2 initiative statutes, prescribes alternative prison sentencing for any person convicted of a felony who has one or more prior serious or violent felony convictions.

This bill would require the Legislative Analyst to undertake a joint study to examine the costs and benefits of the "3 strikes law" and to report its findings, as specified, to the Legislature by December 31, 2000. The bill also would require the Judicial Council, the Attorney General, and the University of California to assist the Legislative Analyst in conducting the study.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislative Analyst shall examine
2 the costs and benefits of the “three strikes” law, and
3 report its findings to the Legislature on or before
4 December 31, 2000. The Judicial Council, the Attorney
5 General, and the University of California (upon approval
6 by the Board of Regents) shall assist the Legislative
7 Analyst in conducting the study. The report shall examine
8 the extent to which reductions in serious crime can be
9 attributed to mandatory state incarceration policies, and
10 shall compare any ascertainable benefits from crime
11 prevention through incapacitation of various types of
12 offenders with the costs of incarcerating them. The
13 report shall also assess the degree to which the “three
14 strikes” law—~~exacerbates~~ *may effect* selective law
15 enforcement problems, and the cost of corrective
16 measures. *The study shall also include an assessment of*
17 *the cost to victims as a result of being victimized and the*
18 *consequent costs to state and local governments.* The
19 study shall also assess the manner in which the “three
20 strikes” law is implemented in representative urban,
21 rural, and mixed urban-rural counties in California. The
22 study shall utilize existing resources of the participating
23 agencies.

O

