

## HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

Date: April 29, 1998

Bill Subject: Sentencing

Prepared By: Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

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### I. Amendments Contained in Message

**House Amendment 1 (615157)** (body)

### II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message

**House Amendment 1** deletes clarifying language regarding consecutive sentencing. It deletes language that would make clear, thus avoid future massive litigation on the issue, that a sentencing court may sentence an offender up to the maximum statutory sentence for each offense before the court for sentencing. The legislative intent in 1997 when the Criminal Punishment Code was passed was to sentence an offender for every offense that is committed, not just one crime with the other crimes unpunished. It is anticipated that the deletion of this language will create a fiscal impact upon the court system as an increase in litigation because this issue would be unclear and subject to argument if it is deleted.